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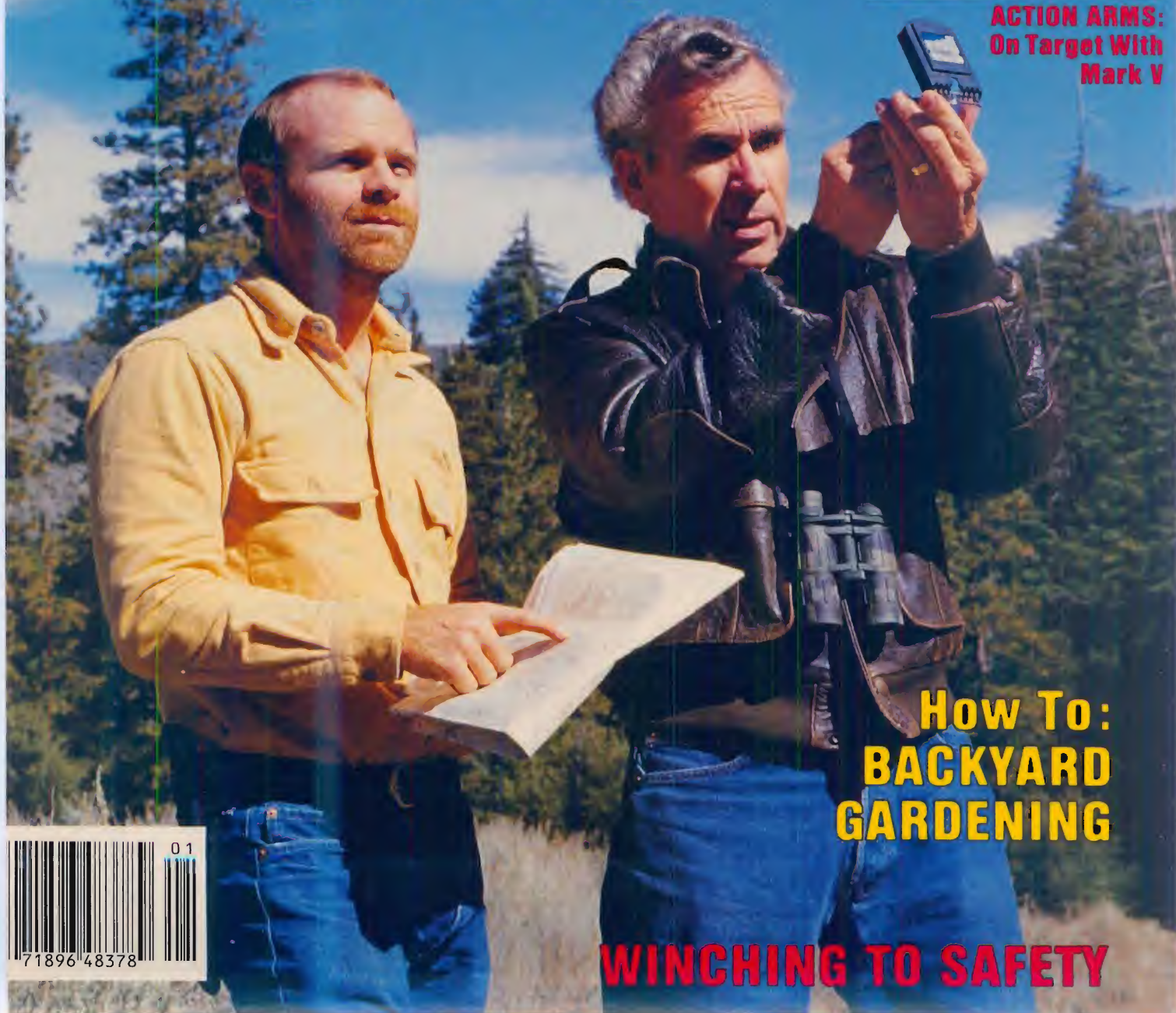
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AMERICAN SURVIVAL GUIDE

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 1 JANUARY, 1987

THE MAGAZINE FOR SAFER LIVING

COVER:

Use of topographical map and compass for direction finding are basic skills of wilderness survival. Students of outdoors survival courses learn these and many other life-saving activities. See page 26 (Photo by Larry Saavedra.) Inset: Action Arms' Mark V Scope. See page 58.

Page 28



5 Survival Line
Murder odds, American POWs, economic disaster.

8 To The Point
Why be a survivalist?

10 Mail Call
Letters from the survivalist community.

11 Book Reviews
'SAS Survival Manual,'
'Nuclear War Survival,'
'The Second World War.'

14 New Products
Equipment of interest to the self reliant.

16 Backpack Fever
Can you carry enough with you for the long term?

Page 76



20 Survivalist Directory
A confidential listing for those seeking communication.

22 Personal Radiation Detector
Keychain-sized device measuring radiation as low as .5 roentgen/hr.

24 Rodent Control
Space Age technology to keep vermin away from stored food.

26 Wilderness Classroom
Living off the land at 9,000 feet in the mountains.

28 Tac Transceiver
Secure communication with this rugged, powerful transceiver.

30 Survival Cutlery
At the Knifemakers Guild Show in Dallas.

32 Marlin Camp Carbine
A nifty 9mm plinker, defender, forager.

34 Defensive Ammo
Custom designed bullets for performance, accuracy.

36 Cold Injuries
Management of different levels of frostbite, trenchfoot.

43 Sierra Foods
Military MRE storage foods for your needs.

44 Camp Gun
Chopped down but legal 12 gauge predator blaster.

46 F.I.E. Shotgun
S.S.S. Model 'Snake Charmer' style 12 gauge.

48 Optics Buyers Guide
Selected glasses for long range viewing.

52 Operation Four Corners
A survivalist exercise in the Southwest.

54 Backyard Garden
Planting the right stuff for self sufficiency.

56 Self-Rescue Winches
Build your own hoists, pullers, levers to get unstuck.

58 Mark V Scope
Action Arms' red dot electronic sighting.

68 Bomber Jacket
Original U.S.A.A.C.-spec WW2 flight jacket.

73 Classified Ads
Messages of interest to survivalists.

75 Light Spectrum
A periodical for survival electronics and communications.

76 Cold Water Survival
U.S. Coast Guard-approved heavy neoprene wear.

78 Custom Chest Pouches
Custom made magazine pouches you can wear with a pack.

Page 78



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The odds of being murdered, Defense Department cites 'strong probability' of American POWs in Southeast Asia, Korean civil defense, U.S. economic disaster planning . . .

THE average U.S. citizen has a 1-in-153 chance of becoming a murder victim during the course of his/her lifetime, according to FBI statistics. The statistics, released in an FBI annual report entitled "Crime in the United States," show that the odds of an individual being murdered vary widely along sex and racial lines. For instance, males of all races have a 1-in-100 chance of being murdered during the course of their lives, while white males alone have a possibility of being murdered of 1 in 164. For non-white males the odds are 1 out of 28. For females of all races the murder odds are 1 in 323, for white females the probability is 1 in 450, while for non-white females it is 1 in 117. The statistics also show that those (both male and female) in the 20 to 30 age group are most likely to be murdered.

POWs—For the first time in many years, a Defense Department task force report has concluded that there is a "strong probability" that American prisoners of war remain alive in Southeast Asia. According to the head of the task force, Lieutenant General Eugene F. Tighe Jr. (former Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency), there is "a large volume of evidence" that points to the likelihood that the Vietnamese government is still holding American POWs.

The Defense Department lists 2,430 Americans as unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. That number includes 42 civilians and 1 member of the Coast Guard. U.S. involvement in the war ended 15 years ago.

Civil Defense Lesson—When Americans tune in the 1988 Olympic Games in South Korea, they most likely will not see the networks of tunnels and shelters which crisscross Seoul and many other cities in that country.

South Korea, faced with a fanatic foe to the north, has quietly built one of the most effective civil defense programs in the world. In cities such as Seoul, Incheon, and Pusan, the South Korean government has provided an effective and well stocked shelter system for the civilian population.

These civilian shelters are not kept locked and barred. Instead, they are used

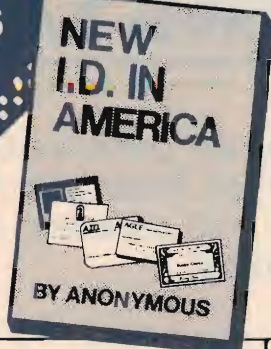
every day by millions of people. The shelter tunnels have been turned into mini and in some cases major shopping malls. The shelters are lined with businesses and stores which, in return for low rents, sell and stock goods which would be of use in an emergency. The government has also stockpiled medicines and generating equipment for use in the shelter tunnels. Virtually the entire 4-million population of Seoul can be accommodated by that city's shelter system.

The taxes paid by the retail shops within the shelters are earmarked by the government for the construction and maintenance of the shelter system.

The South Koreans seem to have found an economically feasible method of providing shelters for their population.

Economic Contingency Planning—Among the most sensitive and closely guarded secrets in the government are the plans to deal with economic catastrophes. These events can range from the simultaneous collapse of a number of major banks to the sabotage of the computer systems at a major stock exchange. The plans are so sensitive that in many cases they are not even written down. The reason is that the inadvertent release of a contingency plan could panic investors, stockholders, and others, and might bring about the very disaster the plans are designed to cope with.

Whether written down or not the plans do exist. For instance, the Federal Reserve Board has focused on planning for the failure of major commercial banks. The Security and Exchange Commission has drafted plans to cope with a terrorist attack on the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange. The Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation have emergency plans should they run out of funds to cover customer deposits. Perhaps the ultimate plan belongs to the Federal Reserve. Stored at its Emergency Relocation Center in Culpeper VA, are over 700 million individual currency notes of varying denominations. The cash is to be used to help restore the economy after a nuclear war. ●



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by Anonymous

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by Duncan Long

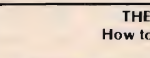
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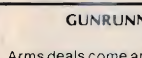
by W. G. Hill

Are you being hounded by unjust accusations of crime, a messy divorce, crippling litigation or tax problems? If so, let a second passport be your escape route. What documents do you need to get one? What are the problems and benefits of a dual nationality? Which type of passport suits you best? How do people get stolen, forged and ghost passports? **The Passport Report** gives you the answers as well as the passport requirements of selected countries. With hundreds of nations in the world today, you can see to it that no one will know where to look for you! 8½ x 11, hardcover, case histories, 112 pp. **\$50.00**



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by Bruce Clayton, Ph.D.

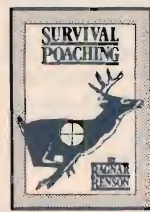
Who will survive the nuclear war that many experts predict is coming? **Life After Doomsday** tells you how to survive such a radioactive nightmare. Includes eye-opening information about shelters, food storage, home medical techniques, survival psychology, and shelter defense. 8½ x 11, hardcover, charts, drawings, photos, 180 pp. **\$21.95**



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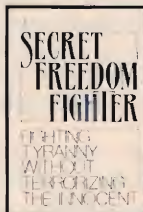
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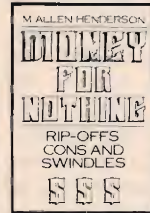
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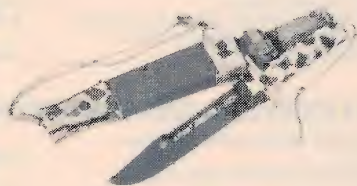
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TO THE POINT

Why be a survivalist?

WHY would anyone want to be a survivalist?

For the readers of this magazine, that question should not be a difficult one. We all know that, of course, there are lots of reasons to study, practice and learn the secrets, skills and activities that can save our lives or the lives of our friends, loved ones and neighbors—or anyone else, for that matter.

Unfortunately and due largely to the negative image of so-called "survivalists" in the news and entertainment media, the term "survivalist" is a dirty word to too many members of the public, and many people who we would call survivalists don't want to be associated with the term.

Let's be clear about what we mean by "survivalist." A survivalist to the staff of this publication is merely a person who is interested in and studies to survive one life-threatening situation/scenario or another—or any and all such situations/scenarios. There are good survivalists and bad survivalists, if I may be so simplistic.

I mean, of course there are a few individuals who will give a bad name to any endeavor. These are people whom even most survivalists would regard as weird, eccentric, criminal. And unfortunately, these people are always the "survivalists" played up in our news and entertainment media: the nuts, weirdos, crazies, criminals.

These people make news; grab attention. The great majority of people who would call themselves survivalists are not the weird, eccentric, crazy or criminal elements of society. On the contrary, they are often respected, law-abiding and reasonable people; productive and patriotic citizens. But mention the word survivalist and they will often be looked upon with suspicion, even contempt by their peers who are largely ignorant of what survivalists, real survivalists, are all about, and draw their conception of survivalists from what they read/see/hear in the media.

So who then are some truly typical survivalists?

They are often present or former members of the armed forces, especially Army Special Forces and Rangers, Marine Reconnaissance and other specialized units. They are police and sheriff's officers and other law enforcement personnel. They are civil defense and other government officials. They are private investigators, body guards and security guards. They are Ph.D.s in various fields, such as

pharmacology, biochemistry and electrical engineering. They are Scout leaders and Boy Scouts. They are owners of businesses and industries. And they are a whole lot of other people, many of whom would be generally regarded as just your average citizens but whom we regard as uncommonly intelligent, dedicated, serious people who know they may not always be able to depend on government to protect and save them from dangers and threats that exist in life.

What kind of dangers and threats are these?

You name it: hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, disasters, terrorism, war, crime, disease, nuclear and other industrial accidents, wilderness hazards, boating/flying/driving accidents . . . the list goes on and on.

Yes, there are certainly many, many dangers and threats to deal with in one's lifetime. Knowledge, practice and preparation can make the difference between life and death, success and failure. Those of us who call ourselves survivalists know this, and knowing it, we feel better about ourselves and our situations in life. We are able to do something positive, often something crucial to improve our situations in life. Survivalists are actually optimists and realists.

But for some other people, just the thought of survivalists preparing for whatever dangerous, life-threatening situations that may befall them is somehow frightening, even threatening. These people, it seems, would rather not even talk about such dangers, would rather not even think about them.

These people, sad to say, will likely be among the first to suffer and to die in a natural or manmade disaster. If they insist on clinging to ignorance in hopes of lessening their fears and feelings of helplessness in a disaster, well then, that's their business. Most survivalists would try to help them if possible during such a disaster, of course. But that may not be enough.

As for the great majority of those of us who consider ourselves survivalists and who believe in preparedness, the ignorance and unfounded fears of others will not deter us from continuing with our quiet preparations and studies—preparations and knowledge we hope we will never truly need but which we know only too well could be needed at any time—*Jim Benson*.



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COMMANDO PUP

This plush and cuddly puppy has joined the Army and is waving good-bye as he goes off to become a commando. He's beige and brown, and is outfitted in a Woodland camouflage uniform and cap. Jacket has pockets, epaulets and snaps for easy on-and-off. Pants snap in back with a hole for his tail. He stands a proud 12 inches tall.

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Private Armies

Concerning your article "Private Armies" in the November 1986 issue, we feel that you have done Christian survivalists in general a disservice. Our group has a paramilitary component—the Mission—comprising four fire teams of four soldiers each, three assault riflemen and one battle rifleman. I can assure you that we have no intention of accepting assistance from communist bloc advisors or of waging unconventional warfare against the U.S. government or its citizens. We never miss an issue of *ASG*. It's required reading for all members. However, we resent being smeared as racists or neo-Nazis or Rambo freaks, for we assuredly are not!

Jason Wells
Providence, Rhode Island

*We knew before we used this article that it would be controversial. It focused on neo-Nazi and other right-wing extremist groups but included some discussion of left-wing extremist groups. Since members of these right-wing extremist groups are often labeled as survivalists in the news media, survivalists in general suffer from this negative image. We know that the great majority of survivalists are not extremists and support the U.S. government. We believe it's important for *ASG* to include coverage of right-wing extremist groups as part of its overall coverage of terrorism and threats to our government. We will be publishing other articles on other terrorist groups, including Jewish extremists. It was definitely not our intention to link Christian survivalists in general with these terrorist organizations and we don't believe the article did that.*

Israeli Gas Masks

Regarding the article "Israeli Gas Masks" in the October 1986 issue, the author does not answer the question in a lot of people's minds: why did the Israelis surplus nearly 100,000 masks and at such a low price? Mr. Long, the author of the article, did not go into detail about the filter canisters. Are they no longer effective and so they are being turned into surplus? The article talks about charcoal, soda lime, and silica gel but doesn't say whether these canisters contain all three. I opened a canister yesterday and only found the filter element and charcoal granules. I do think the readers would like to know more about these masks.

Name withheld
Cincinnati, Ohio

We will be carrying more information about these and other gas masks on the

market, and we'll see if we can't come up with answers to the specific questions you have. Meantime, according to the information we have, there are so many of the Israeli gas masks on the market because the Israelis are introducing a new mask with a wider field of vision but which is otherwise the same as the surplus Israeli mask, and both masks use the same filters. The filters are said to be effective against all known chemical/biological/nuclear warfare gases, and it is the charcoal which is the primary filtering agent for these gases.

British Gas Masks

Please let me know where I can obtain one of the new British Army issue gas masks. I understand that it is superior to the U.S. models and is also better than the Israeli military or civilian mask. It has one external filter mounted on the left side (making it easier to shoot a rifle) and comes in a variety of sizes. Also, do these masks use NATO standard filters?

Ed Watson
New Bedford, Massachusetts

We're not aware of this new British mask which you speak of and we don't know of anyone selling it. We'll look into the matter and see what we can find out.

Indexing *ASG*

I have been receiving *American Survival Guide* for about four years and I enjoy every issue. I feel I am building a library of survival information that will be priceless in a survival situation. I would not want to lose a single issue. I have a suggestion that would help me and probably a lot of your readers. Would it be possible to compile an index of pages of each issue into a booklet for quick reference? Your magazine offers so many wonderful solutions to emergency situations. Unless these solutions can be found quickly in an emergency they are almost useless. One suggestion I would like to make would be for a 13th issue at the end of each year with the index printed in it. Or perhaps a tear-out index in each issue.

Luther S. Judah, Sr.
Wauchula, Florida

Other readers have suggested that we produce an index of our issues. We'll certainly consider your request but it would involve time and expense on our part and we're pretty busy most of the time. Of course, readers could do this themselves. Perhaps something can be worked out, however. Thanks for your interest. ●

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The Israeli Masks are not only new (meaning they have not been used) but also are of recent manufacture. Made for the Israeli population to protect against gas attacks, they will handle all common battlefield gases including CBW gases. One important feature is that the filter can be changed in seconds without removing the mask. The canisters have no listed limit to shelf life. In talking to those who seem to know, if the protecting seals are not removed they should store indefinitely. Also the filters are readily available at this time. #C/0569

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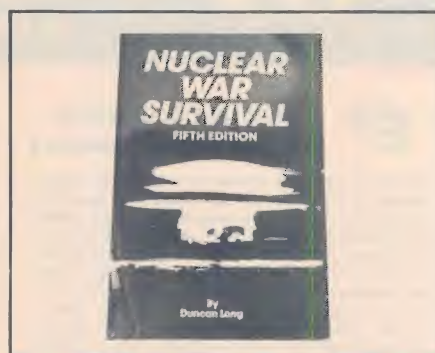
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BOOK REVIEWS



SURVIVE SAFELY ANYWHERE: The SAS Survival Manual, by John Wiseman; Crown Publishers, Inc., Dept. ASG, 225 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003; (212) 254-1600; 288 pages, 254 color illustrations, 600 black and white; \$16.95 paperback, ISBN 0-517-562502; \$29.95 hardcover, ISBN 0-517-56453X.

"Survival is the art of staying alive," says the author, a 27-year veteran of the British Special Air Service who ran the SAS survival school. "Any equipment you have must be considered a bonus. You must know how to take everything possible from nature and use it to the full... the true survivor must learn how to survive when taken from familiar surroundings or when those surroundings are drastically changed by man or nature. Anyone, young or old, from whatever walk of life, can find him- or herself in a survival situation." And so begins Wiseman's work of "preparing you to be a survivor." And it is an impressive work indeed, filled with survival information drawn from his extensive experience in the SAS, during which time he served all over the world. There are chapters on "essentials" (being prepared, research, planning, equipment, knives, facing disaster, basic needs, water, salt), strategy (car accident survival, disaster in the air), climate and terrain, food gathering, camp craft and shelter making, direction finding with and without compass and map, movement on land and water, health and first aid, survival at sea, rescue and disasters (including fire, drought, gases and chemicals, flood and tsunami, hurricane, tornado, lightning avalanche, earthquake, volcano, radiation, nuclear explosion and aftermath), and home preparations. This is certainly one of the most comprehensive books on survival—if not *the* most comprehensive book—the staff of this magazine has seen. The writing is concise yet covers a tremendous amount of vital information. The illustrations are clear and easily understood. It's an exceptional work with a wealth of lifesaving knowledge to impart to the reader. If you were to own only one survival manual, this would be an excellent choice.



Nuclear War Survival, Fifth Edition, By Duncan Long; Guillory & Associates, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 591184, Houston, TX 77259-1184; 104 pages, paperback: \$7.95.

Nuclear war conjures up all sorts of images—often not very accurate ones, notes the author, an established survival author. "If you think a nuclear war would spell the end of the human race, I hope you'll read this book with an open mind. While no one is going to survive a direct hit from a nuclear bomb, as we'll see in later chapters, the area involved in 'total destruction' is not as large as many seem to believe. And research done by many countries and individuals has proven that even a wide-spread nuclear war IS survivable, provided you think about the unthinkable and make a few plans and preparations before the fighting starts." On the other hand, Long continues, "surviving a nuclear war would not be a picnic. It would be bad. But the bottom line is that it can be survived and the survivors would NOT necessarily envy the dead provided the living had planned on surviving." He points out that while many western European countries are making preparations for their citizens to survive a nuclear war, "in the U.S. surviving a nuclear war is sort of an every-man-for-himself proposition. Currently, the U.S. Government's civil defense planning is inadequate to meet the needs of its population and contains fatal flaws in some areas. Coupled with Murphy's Law ('Anything that can go wrong will') which seems to accompany war and disaster, it's doubtful that the U.S. will do more than flounder at a national level if a nuclear war should occur." The book has chapters titled Falsehoods, Myths and Fiction; Living with the Bomb; Radiation and EMP; Targets; Shelter; Special Equipment; Water and Food; Stocking Up. The appendix contains a listing of useful sources of equipment and information. This book is thorough, yet doesn't overwhelm the reader with facts and figures. It's loaded with vital and practical information for the serious nuclear survivalist.



The Second World War, Europe and the Mediterranean, Asia and the Pacific, The West Point Military History Series; Avery Publishing Group, Inc., Dept. ASG, 350 Thorens Ave., Garden City Park, NY 11040; (516) 741-2155; Europe and the Mediterranean, 429 pages, paperback \$20 plus \$2 postage and handling, ISBN 0-89529-242-4, hardcover \$25, plus \$2, ISBN 0-89529-314-5; Asia and the Pacific, 328 pages, paperback \$18 plus \$2 postage and handling, ISBN 0-89529-243-2, hardcover \$25 plus \$2, ISBN 0-89529-313-7.

These two volumes are the latest in The West Point Military History Series. Available for use with each book is a full color 14- by 10½-inch campaign atlas. From 1939 to 1945 the world was at war, embroiled in a conflict affecting every continent and sea lane. As the Axis consolidated its hold on Europe and the Imperial Japanese Empire expanded its domination over the Far East and the Pacific, the technological promises of the Great War were fulfilled as tanks, planes, ships and the men engaged in mortal combat. Here in these two volumes is an intriguing look at the power and strategy, the men and machines, the accomplishments and failures of this century's greatest war. Contributing authors to the works have each served on the faculty of the United States Military Academy at West Point. Chapters in the Europe and the Mediterranean volume include: Birth of the Blitzkrieg, The Battle of Britain, Hitler Triumphant: The Balkan Campaign and Operation BARBAROSSA, The Grand Alliance, The Battle of the Atlantic, The D-Day Assault. Chapters in Asia and the Pacific include: From Versailles to Pearl Harbor, The Early Carrier War, Legacy of Midway: The Jungle War; China-Burma-India: The War for East Asia, Allied Victory: Toward a New Order in the Far East. For anyone interested in the history of the Second World War, these are fascinating works worth having. ●

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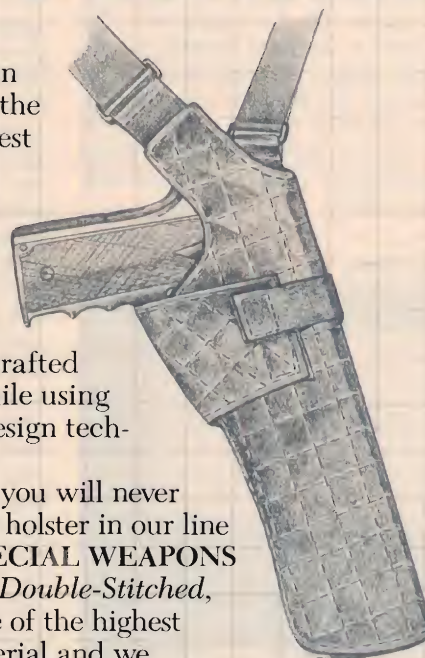
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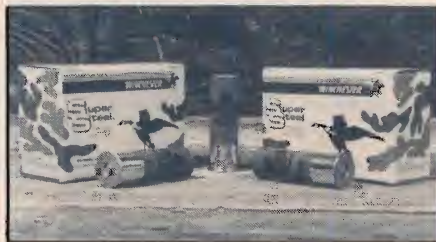
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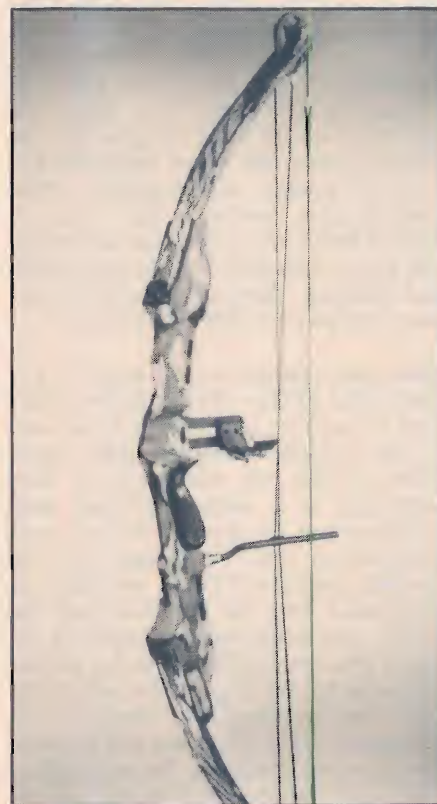
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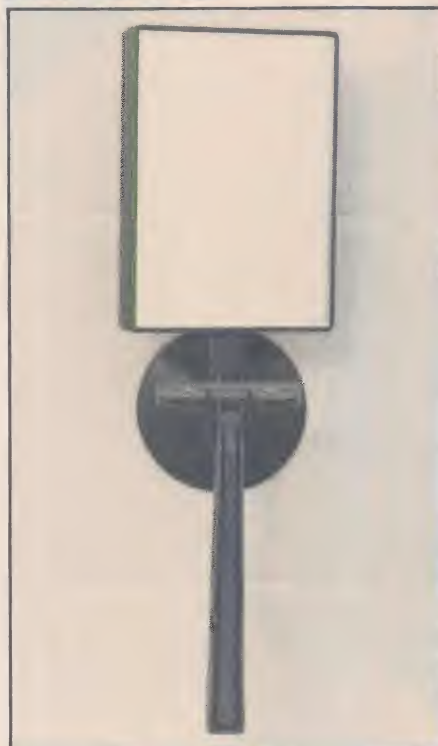
combination of pattern density and retained pellet energy to bag tough, high-flying geese. Copperplating, an added benefit of the new load, inhibits rust and smooths steel pellet surfaces. Additionally, the new loads' extra-thick plastic wads help protect shotgun barrels and improve pellet flow through chokes, resulting in better patterns for surer hits and more game. The new Winchester BBB and T shot size Super Steel Goose Loads are available in convenient camouflage 10-packs, in three-inch 12 gauge magnum loadings.

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Escaping Disaster:



Because of the elaborate planning and large amount of supplies needed to survive a major disaster, "bugging out" of an area with only what you can carry on your back becomes less and less of a viable option. This would be an option, however, in the case of a localized disaster.

Backpack Fever

Can a survivalist expect to live through a catastrophe with only what he or she can carry in a backpack? . . .

By Duncan Long

PHOTOS BY MAGGIE LONG

THERE'S A LOT of confusion about what survival means. To some, it's getting through the aftermath of an airplane wreck in a desolate area. It can mean knowing when to avoid walking in radioactive wastes. Or, it can mean knowing how to barter with troops in the aftermath of riots, war, and looting. To others, survival has to do with avoiding danger and knowing how to deal with it when it breaks into your home in the dead of night.

Survival ideas abound and there are as many definitions and strategies as there are

survivalists. Some have good ideas for survival and some have unsound tactics. Bad ideas can mean extra work or trouble in everyday life; bad ideas during a survival situation get you killed. On-the-job training doesn't work when you're dealing with poison and gunfights. Or survival.

One of the most dangerous ideas—as far as I'm concerned—is that of "backpack survival."

A "backpack survivalist" is a survivalist that plans on leaving his home ahead of a disaster and taking to the woods with only what he can carry out with him. He plans

to survive through a strategy that is a sort of cross between the Boy-Scout-in-the-woods and Robinson Crusoe. The backpack survivalist plans on outrunning danger with a four-wheel drive or a motorcycle and hopes to travel light with a survival kit of everything he might need to cope with the unexpected. He hasn't cached anything in the area he's headed for because, chances are, he doesn't know where he's headed. Somehow, he hopes to overcome all odds with a minimum of supplies and a maximum of smarts. Certainly it is a noble cause; but it seems like one destined to failure. And that's not survival.

Let's back up a minute. Backpack fever—or but-outosis—*does* make sense when you're facing a localized disaster like a derailed train with poisonous gas leaking from overturned rail cars, or a potential nuclear meltdown, an impending hurricane, or other disasters where there is a safe place to run to. During such a time, it makes perfect sense to retreat and come back when things settle down. Likewise, some people have to work in dangerous

areas. For them, donning a backpack and heading for a retreat that they've prepared before hand is a viable survival strategy.

Yes, I once was a (closet) backpack survivalist. I had an ALICE pack and had it packed with all I could carry. As I learned more about how to survive, I realized I needed to carry more. Soon I discovered that, just for my family to survive for a very few days, I'd need a pack mule and/or a hernia operation . . . Something was very wrong.

Probably most survivalists start out the same way. Things are bad so let's bug out. Backpack survivalism is an effort to deal with the possibility of a major disaster. As backpack survivalists, we make elaborate plans centered around the idea of "bugging out" of the area we live in. We hope to travel to an area that is safer than the one we're in and plan on living off the land or on some survival supplies we've hidden in the area. On the home front, we carefully prepare a stock of supplies that we can

quickly cart off in a car or van when things start to look bad.

As more and more plans are made and as ever more survival gear is purchased, the survivalist realizes just how much he needs to cope with in order to survive. If he is any sort of realist, he soon amasses enough gear to warrant a truck or—more likely—a moving van just for carrying the survival equipment. And don't laugh, there are survivalists who have large trucks for just such use.

Some brave souls continue to make more elaborate plans and some of these survivalists may be able to pull off their plans. Those who have really thought things out and have spared no expenses may manage to survive with a bug-out strategy. But I think there are more logical and less expensive ways to survive a large crisis.

Forget all your preconceived notions for a minute. Imagine that there is a national emergency and you are an outside

observer? What happens if a nuclear attack is imminent, an economic collapse has occurred, or a dictator has taken over and is ready to round up all malcontents (with survivalists at the top of the list)?

Situations change with time. The survivalist movement—and backpack fever—first started up when gas guzzler cars were about all that anyone drove. That meant that a survivalist with some spare gasoline could outdistance his unprepared peers and get to a retreat that was far from the maddening crowd, as it were. (Read some of Mel Tappan's early writing on survival retreats. His ideas are good but many have been undone with the new, fuel-efficient cars.)

No matter how out-of-the-way their destination, most survivalists are kidding themselves if they think others won't be headed for their hideaway spot along with them. There are few places in the U.S. which aren't accessible to anyone with a little driving skill and a good map.

Too, there are few places which aren't dangerous during a nuclear war or national social unrest.

Though most nuclear war survival books can give you a nice little map showing likely targets, they don't tell you some essential information. Like what the purpose of the attack will be. The enemy may not be aiming for military targets that day; a blackmail threat might be made by hitting the heart of the farmland or a number of cities before the enemy demands the surrender of the country being attacked. The target areas on the maps might be quite safe.

And the maps show where the missiles land if they are all 100 percent accurate and reliable.

Added to this is the fact that some areas can be heavily contaminated or completely free of contamination depending on the wind directions in the upper atmosphere. Crystal ball in your survival gear?

But let's ignore all the facts thus far for a few moments and assume that a backpack survivalist has found an ideal retreat and is planning to go there in the event of a national disaster . . . What next?

First Concern—His first concern should be that he'll have a hard time taking the supplies he needs with him. A nuclear war might mean that it will be impossible to grow food for at least a year and foraging is out as well since animals and plants may be contaminated.

Ever try to pack a year's supply of food for a family into a small van or car? There isn't much room left over. But the backpack survivalist needs more than just food.

If he lives in a cold climate (or thinks there might be something to the nuclear winter theory) then he'll need some heavy clothing. Rifles, medicine, ammunition, tools, and other supplies will also increase what he'll need to be taking or which he'll have to hide away at his retreat site.

(Continued on page 66)

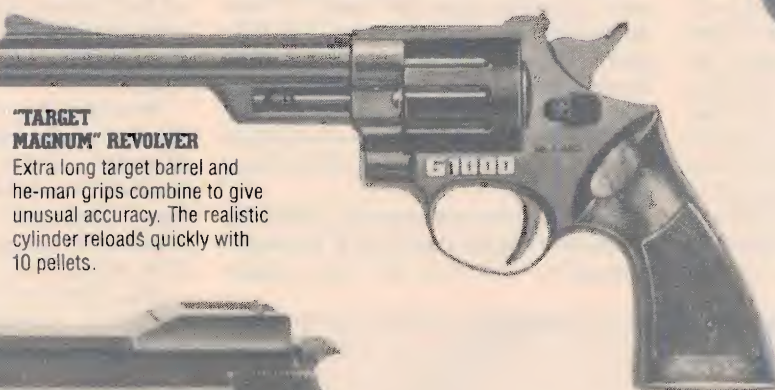


While it is possible to carry enough supplies on your back to "live off the land" for several months or even years under the right circumstances, a lot more supplies and a good survival home base are needed for long-term survival after a large-scale disaster.

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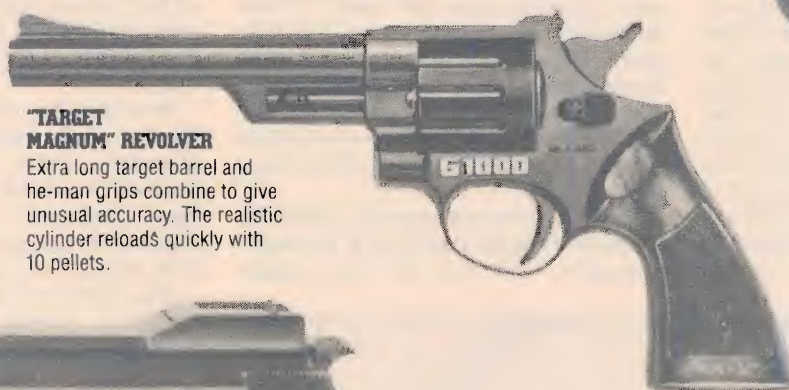
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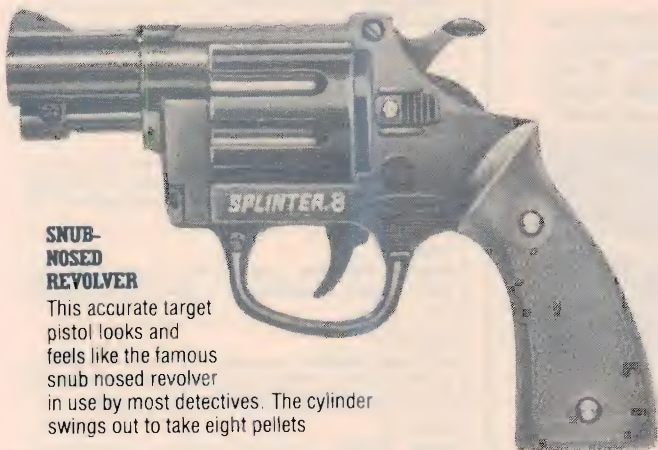


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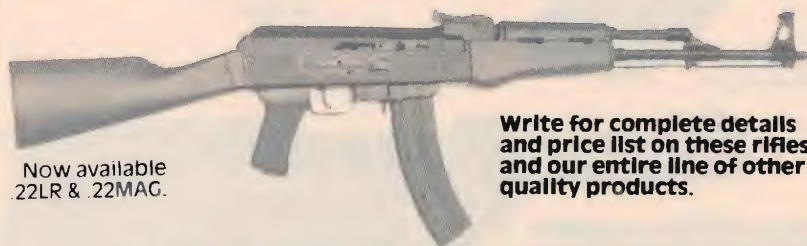
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ASG 0101

Maine, seeking contact with other survivalists, females welcome, prefer ex-military. Co-op survival homestead, with the following qualifications, medic, weapons, hunting and trapping, nutritionist, logistics, engineer and technologist.

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Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, young, new starting survivalist looking for a survival group. Survival instructor needed. Japanese martial arts instructor needed also. (All ages, backgrounds, races accepted).

ASG 0103

Hardeeville, South Carolina, survivalist interested in contacting other survivalists in this and other areas to exchange information and possibly join a group.

ASG 0104

Blount County, Alabama, 3-year-old group interested in survival minded persons. All aspects of survival are of interest. We seek low profile, security conscious people.

ASG 0105

Cincinnati, Ohio, looking for survivalist group or self sufficiency group. No pro-communists please.

ASG 0106

Houston, Texas, wish to contact other beginning survivalists to start a survival group. Contact with other individuals and groups in area for sharing information and mutual assistance in bad times a goal.

ASG 0107

Hickory, North Carolina area, wanting to form group. Ex-USMC, presently in police security field. Send what you are interested in, no way outs. Serious inquiries only.

ASG 0108

Chicago, Illinois, forming survival group, seeking members and leadership cadre. Backgrounds in military, medical, police, electronics mechanical, etc. preferred but not essential. Send resume of background and qualifications.

ASG 0109

Aldergrove, British Columbia, young person living in Canada would like to meet other people interested in forming a survival group.

ASG 0110

Unlontown, Pennsylvania, long time survivalist seeks contact with same, to form small group.

ASG 0111

Colorado Springs, Colorado, seeking contact with survivalists and families to set up a group or exchange information and ideas, establish communication link, etc.

ASG 0112

Brooklyn, New York, looking to form or join survivalists group in area, all survivalists in New York City contact us.

ASG 0113

St. Louis, Missouri, seeking members for survivalist retreat 120 miles from St. Louis, also seek others in area and out for exchange of ideas and information.

ASG 0114

Mesa, Arizona, Christian survivalist seeks correspondence and information exchange with others nationwide.

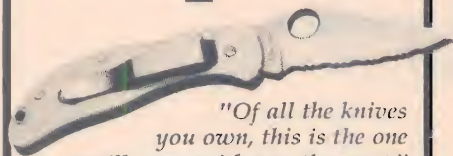
ASG 0115

Palm Springs, California, single lady wishes to relocate in Colorado, Wyoming, Idaho area. Looking for contact with other survivalists.

(Continued on page 71)

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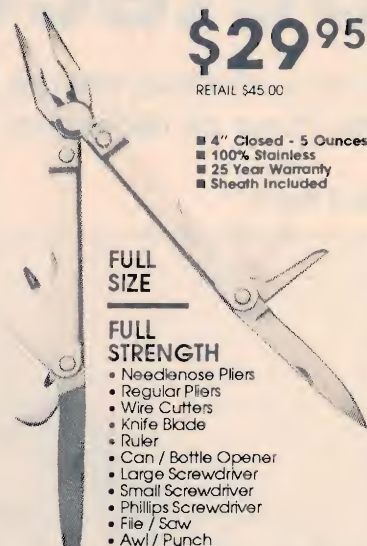
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A non-electric device for detection of as little as .5 roentgen per hour of radiation. You can wear it on a keychain . . .

Staff Report



The Personal Radiation Detector element turns from white to green to the presence of radiation. The brighter the shade of green, the higher the radiation level.

THE Personal Radiation Detector is a keychain-sized instrument which enables the user to detect potentially dangerous radiation below one roentgen per hour.

The Personal Radiation Detector is about the size of a quarter, can be carried conveniently and can be mounted or packaged in a variety of ways. It is currently being marketed in the form of a keyring, with other applications being developed.

A new chemical breakthrough has led to creation of these detectors, according to Larry Ancell, president of Nuclear Research, Inc., of Rogers, Arkansas, manufacturer of the Personal Radiation Detector.

A "highly secret" chemical in the detector element reacts instantly when exposed to radiation levels as low as .5 roentgen/hour, turning the white element shades of green. When the detector is removed from the radiation source, it turns

white again instantly, according to Ancell. The brighter the shade of green, the more intense the source of the radiation, up to about 5 to 6 rads, but the element will still turn bright green in the presence of higher levels of radiation.

The detector element requires no batteries or other energizing source, operating entirely from its own chemistry, and it will never wear out, so it can be used over and over again indefinitely.

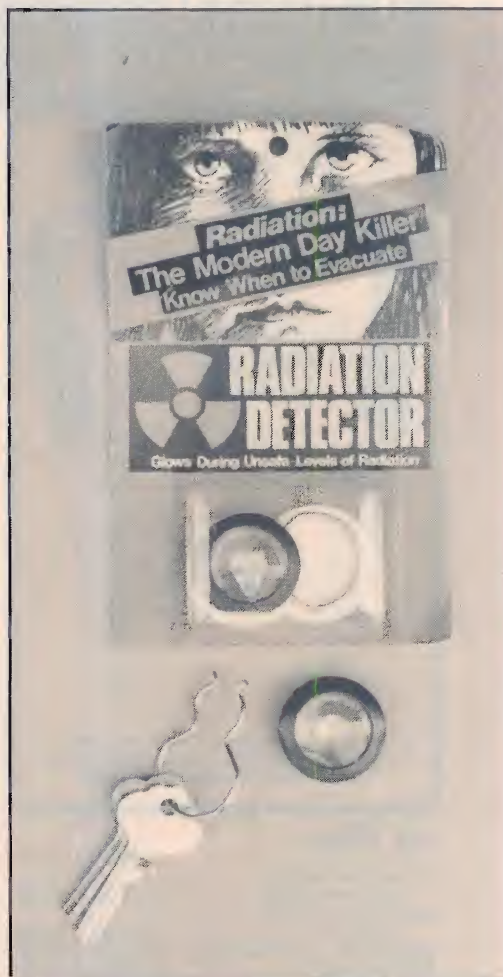
James King, chairman of Nuclear Research, said the Personal Radiation Detector has applications for both military and industrial uses as well as use by the general public.

"Most of the radiation testers now in use are electronic, which in the event of a nuclear disaster, fail to operate," King said. "Because our monitor has no electronic components it will be operational at all times." It is also non-adjustable so no calibration devices are needed and it has

been tested and measured by a licensed radiologist certified by the American Board of Radiology.

This device could be used to detect potentially dangerous levels of radiation at or near nuclear power plants, military installations, commercial nuclear facilities, nuclear waste disposal sites, and in commercial nuclear transportation.

The Personal Radiation Detector costs \$14.95. For more information or ordering, contact MICON, Dept. ASG, Rt. 7, Box 4500C, Joplin, MO 64801; (417) 623-7083.



The detector is packaged as a keyring device but it can be carried or mounted in a variety of ways.

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Ultrasonic Sounds, Magnetic Pulses:

Space Age Rodent Control

These devices do not kill rodents but alter their behavior . . .

By Clifford J. Sherry, Ph.D.

VIRTUALLY anyone who stores food in bulk has had, currently has, or will have problems with rodents. Most of the problems are caused by the brown or Norwegian rat and the common house mouse. In contrast to popular folklore, rats and mice do not particularly like cheese, but they do like whole grain and flour, seeds, fresh and dried fruits and vegetables, bread, and especially sweets of any kind. One adult rat can consume more than 27 pounds of food in a single year, while a mouse, which is somewhat smaller and pickier, can consume more than four pounds. An average rodent will foul five to 10 times more food than he eats with his hair, droppings, and urine. The internal and external parasites of rodents carry many diseases. Bubonic plague, which decimated the human population of Europe during the Dark Ages, is carried by the rat and its fleas. Salmonella and Leptospira are also spread by rodents.

Rodents must gnaw to survive. Their front teeth grow continuously, as much as five inches in a year in a rat. If the rat does not gnaw, his front teeth will continue to grow and will eventually pierce his skull and brain and kill him. They destroy many manmade structures and they are thought to be responsible for many electrical fires, because they gnaw the insulation from electrical wires.

After centuries of struggle, we are still just barely holding our own against rodents. Modern rodent control experts suggest various combinations of three control measures: rodent proofing, trapping, and poisoning. Rodent proofing is relatively expensive. Trapping and poisoning are relatively difficult if a favored food is available. Mice and particularly rats are neophobic; they fear and avoid new or novel features of their environment. So poisons or traps must be put out and left out for prolonged time periods.

One of the major problems with poisons, even the commonly used anticoagulants, is that they do not cause a 100 percent kill. Some animals, due to some mutation or other genetic anomaly, are resistant to the poison and survive. Since rodents are very prolific breeders, these resistant animals seem to be spreading. Theoretically, a single pair of rats and their offspring could produce 1,100 new rats in a single year and as many as a quarter of a million rats in

three years. So, if we remove non-resistant rats from the population by poisoning them, then the resistant rats will move into the unoccupied space and we will have to develop a more potent poison to deal with them. This increases the potential risk of accidental poisoning to children, domestic animals, and livestock. If this new more potent poison does not cause a 100 percent kill, we must start again and develop a still more potent poison, etc.

Space Age Devices—Recently, two new Space Age electronic devices have been developed that may help us manage rodents without poisons or baits. Since these devices do not kill the animals but merely alter their behavior, it is unlikely that resistant animals will develop. There are two different but interrelated devices. One of the devices generates ultrasonic sounds while the other generates random magnetic pulses. Both of these devices are relatively new and somewhat controversial. Part of the controversy that surrounds these devices is due to the fact that some early manufacturers of these devices made unwarranted claims about their devices and many had real problems with quality control. Currently, manufacturers of these devices must obtain an Environmental Protection Agency number before they can manufacture and sell these devices in the United States.

Most humans, particularly young humans, can hear sounds that vary in frequency from 20 to 20,000 cycles per second. Frequencies below 20 cycles are commonly called infrasound, while frequencies above 20,000 are called ultrasonic. Beginning in the late 1960s, evidence began accumulating that rats and other rodents can hear and produce sounds with frequencies well into the ultrasonic range. We now know that rats can hear and produce sounds with frequencies in excess of 70,000 cycles/second. There is increasing evidence that rats communicate with one another at frequencies well above the range of human hearing. For example, a dominant male rat will generate a series of short 50,000 (50 kilohertz) cycle bursts of sound if another rat invades his territory. To avoid a fight, the invader, if he is submissive, must answer with a series of longer 22 kilohertz pulses. Rats use high pitched sounds during courtship as well as

when they are disturbed or frightened.

In addition, high intensity sound is noxious. Think about high intensity audible sounds such as an ambulance siren or a jack hammer or a jet plane starting its engines. Normally you try to avoid such sounds. Sounds of this intensity will cause physical pain and if exposure continues for any length of time, it will cause damage to the auditory system. A number of investigators have found that rodents will avoid high intensity ultrasonic sounds in laboratory experiments. In these experiments, some of the rodents would engage in a period of violent, rapid, involuntary running which would end in the animal having a convulsion.

Devices that produce high intensity ultrasonic sounds can effect rodents in two ways. First, it interferes with their ability to communicate with each other. In the presence of high intensity ultrasonics, there should be an increase in fighting behavior and a decrease in mating behavior. An increase in social interactions tends to stress animals. The stress is magnified because the sounds themselves are noxious to the animals. Most investigators agree that pure ultrasonic sounds are relatively ineffective, but tones that vary continuously in frequency are most effective, particularly if the tones are rich in harmonics. One of the problems with ultrasonic devices is that the sounds they produce are severely attenuated by most common building materials or stored products. This is especially a problem if you have sacked material, since rodents, particularly mice, will live in the middle of the stack of sacks. The devices are also not effective out of doors or where there is a lot of air turbulence.

The other devices produce random magnetic and electromagnetic fields. Almost everyone is aware that the earth has magnetic fields. The intensity and direction of the field is what makes a compass work. The magnetic device produces fields that increase or decrease the local geomagnetic fields. Beginning in the early 1970s, more and more evidence has been accumulating that suggests that animals ranging from bacteria to honeybees to pigeons to humans may be able to detect a geomagnetic field as well as other magnetic and electromagnetic fields. Much of this work has centered on pigeons because of their



The device on the left produces random electromagnetic pulses to disturb rodents, while the device on the right produces ultrasonic sounds and needs a speaker to be effective.

unique ability to return to their home loft after being transported over and to unfamiliar territory. The evidence suggests that pigeons possess a "magnetic sense" and that they use the information obtained by this sense for the purpose of orientation, particularly during overcast weather. Unfortunately, we know very little about this potential sense, where it is located in the body or how it works.

The work dealing with rodents is even newer. However, one recent study is very suggestive. In this study, laboratory rats and mice were given a free choice of four different housing conditions, which were connected together by hollow tubes. One of these housing conditions was a normal, unshielded cage, while the others included a cage that attenuated steady state (geomagnetic) fields, one that attenuated fluctuating fields, and one that attenuated both steady state and fluctuating fields. If these animals were not detecting magnetic and electromagnetic fields, then they would tend to spend about equal amounts of time in each cage. Contrary to predictions, each animal spent the majority of its time in the cage that attenuated the steady state (geomagnetic field), while avoiding the unshielded cage. It is possible that the decrease in the steady state field was a novel experience since the animals had been exposed to the full intensity of this field for their entire lives.

When the animals in these experiments were exposed to the random magnetic fields produced by the rodent control device, they tended to spend the majority of their time in the two cages that attenuated the fluctuating fields, while decreasing the amount of time they spent in the cage that attenuated the steady state field. These animals also avoided the unshielded cage. The experiment seems to suggest that common rodents are sensitive to the magnetic fields that surround them and that the random fields generated by the rodent control device are noxious since the

animals tried to avoid exposure to it.

The magnetic fields produced by these devices will penetrate most materials except iron and steel. These devices can also be used outdoors as the fields they produce are not affected by wind, etc.

Either the ultrasonic or magnetic device will drive animals away from the protected area. It is a good idea to set up poison sta-

tions at the perimeter, especially if the protected area contains a source of food. Since both rats and mice are territorial, they will have difficulty relocating to a new area that is already inhabited by their own species. If no other source of food is available, the rats and mice will feed at poison stations. These devices hold much promise for the future. ●

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Navigation practice. A student correlates terrain to topographical map.

The brochure promised they would catch fish with their bare hands, navigate with and without map and compass, sleep without bags or blankets, make fire without matches and find food . . .

By Charlotte Clarke



Cooking methods are simple: ash cakes and billy cans.

The author teaches survival for Sierra Wilderness Seminars and life sciences at Fullerton College. She is author of Edible and Useful Plants of California and the inventor of the Survival Bandana. Information about her classes or the bandana may be obtained by writing to her at Fullerton College, 321 E. Chapman, Fullerton, CA 92634—The Editors.

IFELT a little apprehensive as the big blue van shrank in the distance and then disappeared altogether around a bend in the road. We were standing at a trailhead 20 miles from the nearest phone, had no tents, sleeping pads, stoves, matches, or raingear. But worst of all, we were headed out for a week with a food



Steve makes a favorite billy can dessert—wild currant cobbler.



George tries his luck at hand fishing.



An hour's efforts yields some fine Golden Trout.



A proud class poses before their hand-caught meal of Golden Trout.

supply for just a few days. Sounds kind of crazy, I'm sure, but this *was* a survival course.

I looked around at the seven men awaiting my instructions. The brochure that brought us here to this 9,000-foot valley in the Sierras promised them a lot. It promised they would learn to catch fish with their bare hands, navigate with and without maps and compass, sleep without bags or blankets, make fire without matches, and find food in the wilderness. The responsibility weighed heavily on my shoulders. I knew I could teach these things, but this group was a bit unusual. They were going to demand the most of me, I was sure of that. For the first time since I had started teaching wilderness survival the class had no women in it, and several of these men were already into survival and seemed to know a lot. Would they find me lacking? I could only take a deep breath and plunge in.

After some basic route-finding instructions, we hiked off down into the valley, stopping from time to time to spot a marmot, a squirrel, or note an edible plant. They drank it all in and I began to relax. After hiking to the end of the valley and over our first 800-foot pass, I found my usual currant patch and we set to picking. Tomorrow we would live off the land the entire day and this would give us a head

start.

Noting the sun was sinking low and temperatures dropping, I soon called for a return to the trail and challenged them to find my preselected campsite. It was important that they get lots of navigation practice, for I want them all to solo by the end of the week in a very remote area. It soon becomes a standing joke that anyone who is forgetful enough to ask Charlotte "where are we?" or "what's the peak over there?" quickly finds himself doing a location exercise. Just as often, I take on a "confused" pose and let them figure out where we are and which way we should go.

We were soon in another valley, camping on a small stream. "Gather lots of pine needles for a mattress," I suggest, "and make depressions for your shoulders and hips. Stay on this south-facing slope and up away from the creek for warmth." We were all to soon be sleeping without our sleeping bags and I want them to start thinking of the details necessary to survive the 30-degree temperatures.

"My God, Look at that, Steve!" George motioned to the two pan-sized Golden Trout that lay on the bank of the small stream. Their orange and yellow bellies sparkled in the noonday sun as they writhed on the grass. "She just reached under the rock and caught them one by one—in a few seconds! I've never seen anything like it."

George was obviously impressed. Peter and Matt looking on were awestruck too. As I stood kneedeep in the little pool, looking up at these seven big men, my former anxiety completely vanished. This was the first dramatic demonstration of this technique so esteemed by wilderness survivalists, and it had gone well. I had taken a slight gamble but it had paid off. We had been digging onions and edible roots. The fish had appeared unexpectedly and were made part of the lunch on a moment's decision. Seven pairs of hungry eyes

watched them with envy and awe. This was remote country and food was scarce. Though only their second day, I could appreciate that they were eager to learn to supplement their meager rations with this important protein source. It felt good too, that I knew I could teach them to do it just as quickly as I had, so their eagerness pleased me.

We walked back up to the campsite and I rekindled my fire. I had started it with flint and steel, one of the easiest and first methods taught during the week. Our cooking utensils consisted of two simple pieces. A billy can was a former coffee can or any other can with a wire handle. Our spoon or fork was carved quickly from a small piece of willow that morning. Baking was done on rocks; boiling and stewing in the can. We did some roasting of small things on sticks also, but simplicity was the name of the game. I was very conscious of energy expenditure versus energy intake and tried to keep from requiring more than we could handle. Even so, everyone lost weight during the week, but that I accept. I just wanted to make sure that no one became excessively taxed, for that can lead to real problems in this remote area.

After having onion soup flavored with a little fish, we set off down to the main river to learn to catch dinner. The basic idea is quite simple, borrowed from Indians that wandered this basin long ago. "Find a small stream, walk along it and look ahead at the fish that dart under the banks. Note where they go, walk upstream of that point and dirty up the water a little. Then return to that point and probe with your hand under the bank. The muddy water will assist in hiding both the sight of your hand and your smell. When you feel a tail in a hole, work your hand under the belly and grab at the gills. Toss the fish up on the bank. Do not try to grab the tail, it will merely dash away. This is the most com-

(Continued on page 69)



The beautiful remote area of the wilderness classroom.

Handi-Talkie:

Tactical Communications Transceiver

The ICOM IC-2AT is rugged, affordable and performs excellently for short- to medium-range communications . . .

By J. Lincoln Thorner



Law enforcement agents wear the 2AT under a jacket, with ear phone wire up the back and microphone cord through the sleeve. If you're armed, make sure not to string the microphone cord along your gun hand sleeve.

Several types of power packs and fast chargers are available for the ICOM IC-2AT, making it a very flexible communications system.



The ICOM IC-2AT is so tough it's practically kid proof.

EVERY SURVIVALIST and survivalist group should carefully assess the need for dependable tactical communications. That is, short-range communication used for command, control, and intelligence gathering for small groups, families, and individuals working together.

For the here-and-now, that can be anything from dad calling mom from the supermarket to find out what kind of dog food Spot likes to a family staying in touch when they're caught in a blizzard. Some of the other uses for tac-comm are for security at special events like walk-a-thons, body-guarding, on-site disaster relief communications during floods, tornadoes, and earthquakes, and of course survivalist oriented comm for families and small groups.

Some of the criteria you should consider when selecting a tac-comm system are cost, quality, availability and compatibility of equipment, ruggedness and dependability, and of course that it fits the parameters of need you have established for you or your group.

I think I've found a radio that is as close to perfect for short- to medium-range communications work as you will find anywhere: the ICOM IC-2AT.

The 2AT is a narrow-band FM, VHF handi-talkie (HT) transceiver. It is light weight, comes with a variety of rechargeable battery packs available, and depending on antenna, power selection, and terrain, is capable of reliable 2-way communications over a range of 1 to 10 miles or more.

It is basically the same type of radio that is used by the police, fire departments and other government agencies. It operates on any one of almost 1,700 frequency channels that can be selected by using thumb-wheel switches on the top of the radio. It operates in and around the Amateur Radio two meter band (actual frequency range is about 141.500 to 149.995 MHz) and except for emergencies an Amateur Radio license is required for operation in the 144 to 148 MHz Amateur band. The frequencies above and below it are assigned mostly to the military (listening in on these frequencies can be *very* interesting, but as with the Ham band you are not supposed to transmit there except in emergencies). Marine and Commercial band versions of the IC-2AT are available, but I think that you will find that the 2AT is tops for capability and low price.

For information on obtaining a Ham license contact the American Radio Relay League at 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. A Ham license will also make you welcome on the many two meter repeaters (automatic relay stations) around the country which can extend the range of your little HT to 50 to 75 miles or more. For short range tactical comm, the 2AT is perfect just the way it is.

This is a wonderfully sophisticated little radio, with a very impressive set of specifications. The truth is, though, that the

thing that continues to impress the heck out of me is that I've owned one of these things since they were first introduced in America in the late 1970s and it has proven to be the toughest, most dependable piece of radio equipment I've ever used in my 25 years of radio work. For ruggedness, quality, and dependability, as well as flexibility and features, in my opinion, it beats out some of the domestic HTs used by government and commercial services that cost up to 10 times as much.

My unit has been rained on, rattled around in brief cases and backpacks, been through automobile accidents, and even dropped from the cab of a semi onto concrete with no worse than a scratched case. I've used it for security communications at public events when I've had it sweating under a "bullet-proof" vest for many hours, and I even let my little kids play with it.

The specs claim operation to 14 degrees F . . . I've used it many times at more than 20 degrees below zero, too!

The transceiver itself measures about 5 by 2½ by 1½ inches (approximately 125 by 65 by 40mm). It weighs just 12 ounces (340 grams). There are a variety of battery packs (detachable for fast switching when one is used up) that provide differing transmit power and duration between recharging. The smallest of the accessory battery packs available is the BP-2 which is a good "standard" small sized utility pack which provides several hours of relatively heavy duty transmit and receive service. It adds about an inch-and-a-half (40mm) in height and 5 ounces (140 gm.) weight to the basic radio.

There are many accessories available that increase the flexibility and usefulness to you of the 2AT. Complete information on all of them can be had from ICOM America, 2380 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue, Washington 98004. There are just two accessories that I would like to mention though: the 2AT has provision for a standard ear plug to be plugged in for private listening, and an external speaker/mic so that you can talk and listen while the radio is clipped to your belt. Sadly, I do not recommend the ICOM external speaker/mic. It is a fine quality piece but does not allow for it to be used at the same time that an ear plug is used, i.e., anyone standing nearby can overhear a reply you receive (not so hot for security or high sensitivity uses). Yaesu, another good Japanese radio maker, puts out an excellent speaker/mic called the MH-12 a2b which does allow simultaneous use of mic and ear plug and it works very well with the 2AT. The IC-2AT comes with a standard flexible "rubber duck" antenna which is about 7 inches long (175mm). This is excellent for short- and medium-distance use. When space or concealment are at a premium you might consider one of the "short duck" compressed antennas that are available from other manufacturers. For a small sacrifice in range you get an antenna



The ICOM-2AT's noise-free FM and rugged sophistication make it a perfect choice for portable tactical communications.

that is only about half as long as the standard "duck." By the way, Larsen probably makes both the best quality "short duck" and mobile VHF antennas available. Reasonably priced, too!

Speaking of price, the IC-2AT can be had for about \$210.00, or, if available, without a touch-tone pad in the 2A version, for about \$190.00. It comes with a rechargeable ni-cad battery pack and a slow-charge plug-in wall charger (12-hour charge time), a "rubber duck," ear plug, belt clip, and wrist strap. An additional battery pack or two, and the fast-charge desk charger are worthwhile investments. Some battery packs, like the BP-8 can be recharged from a car type battery, if needed.

There are a number of other HTs available on the amateur market, including some with channel memories, scanning and other "computerized" features (including ICOM's own fine IC-02AT). Most are pretty good. But . . . where ruggedness, cost efficiency, and absolute dependability are needed, there is nothing to compare with a 2AT. None has the tough, industrial type, plastic case, hinged steel inner frame and circuit board integrity to compare with this HT. For either everyday use, or the endurance needed in tough tactical communications situations, there is no other hand-held transceiver to compare with ICOM's IC-2AT. ●

New Designs:

Survival Cutlery In Dallas

The 1986 Knifemakers Guild Show . . .

By Douglas C. Berner



TOP TO BOTTOM—Small hollow handle survival knife by Lee Gene Baskett; Eldon Courtney's Model C-5 formed from a single piece of spring carbon steel; medium sized survival knife by John Salley; nine-inch survival model by Webster Wood.



TOP TO BOTTOM: Lee Gene Baskett's "Back Packer's Knife"; survival sheepfoot by Kevin Hoffman; and the "Bow Hunter" by Webster Wood.

IT WAS not so long ago when knives were made one at a time, in the hands of craftsmen with that gifted touch. Before the Industrial Revolution, before automation and factory production lines, each

piece of cutlery was an individual challenge over which a maker labored. Modern industry brought sweeping changes to the field of cutlery. Standardized models, produced in quantity, became the rule while

creation of the one-of-a-kind knives became uncommon in comparison. But the custom knife survived.

In 1970 a group of 11 custom knifemakers formed the Knifemakers Guild. Since then, the public's interest in custom knives has undergone a rebirth and the number of custom knifemakers has grown tremendously. In 1986, the 300+ members of the Knifemakers Guild met in Dallas, Texas, for their annual guild show.

Against the spread out wonder of Dallas, the knifemakers spread out their own wonder: an awesome display of pocketknives, fighters, survival knives, cane knives, push daggers, swords, and unusual art pieces. The guild is an organization of skilled artists, innovators in the truest sense, trend setters for the field of commercial cutlery. Many of these custom knifemakers are masters of the art of breathing life into steel.

One type of knife that has had a lot of life breathed into it during the past few years has been the "survival" knife. This year's guild show was no exception. Several knifemakers demonstrated their interest in the survival knife by displaying the patterns and ideas they have evolved. Many offer a basic survival design with or without sawteeth, or even variations of sawteeth such as a choice between single or double row, or placement along different portions of the blade. The design of the sawteeth is often very distinctive from one knifemaker to the next.

Some of the different survival design ideas found at the 1986 show included removable sawteeth; a magnesium knife handle with imbedded flint; an interesting folding knife; hollow handle knives, tang storage knives; survival machetes; and knife handles wrapped with parachute cord.

Jimmy Lile and Jack Crain showed their knives that have been used in recent movies. Lile, "The Arkansas Knifsmith," created the blades for the films *First Blood* and *Rambo* starring Sylvester Stallone. Arnold Schwarzenegger used several of Jack Crain's knives in the movie *Commando*. Crain has even designed a new survival knife for an upcoming Schwarzenegger film, *The Predator*.

Webster Wood introduced a radical approach to the concept of sawteeth on the back of a knife blade. When they are needed, sawteeth that really cut can be a very useful tool. At other times the teeth

(Continued on page 64)



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Combo Gun:

Marlin Camp Carbine

A reliable, accurate, sturdy, inexpensive little 9mm plinker with about five times as much authority as a .22 rifle . . .

By Joe Zambone



A variety of ammunition was fired through the Camp Carbine in velocity and reliability tests.

MANY hardy souls who tamed the West wanted an extra edge, so they placed their trust in carbines chambered for the same centerfire ammo their pistols digested. The theory was simple: if one gun broke, the other could keep on slingin' lead.

The Marlin Firearms Co. had a hand in that glorious era with their Model 1888 lever-action rifle, firing popular pistol calibers like .32-20 and .44-40. But after things were tamed to a dull roar, demand for pistol caliber carbines lessened and they disappeared before World War II.

After that war, there was renewed interest in short/long combos, resulting in 1963 with Marlin's Model 336T "Texan" in .44 Magnum caliber. They've redesigned that carbine, and now call it their Model 1894. It's available in three hard-hitting calibers: .357, .41 and .44 Magnum. Bill Ruger also got into the act in the mid-1960s with an excellent brush gun, his .44 Magnum auto carbine.

But until Marlin introduced its Camp



A test shooter hunkers down with the test rifle.

Carbine recently, there was nothing in the dual-use category for 9mm handgunners. OK, yeh, there's the spiffy (and expensive) HK94 assault carbine, but that's a special-

purpose weapon.

We first saw Marlin's newest gem at the April, 1985 Seattle NRA meeting; it looked like a cute little M-14. While it isn't as



Flicking the trigger finger forward removes the Camp Carbine's M-1-type safety.



Rear sight is an adjustable, open U-notch.

pleasing to the eye as their lever action carbines, it's just the ticket for plinking, self defense and fast-moving varmint shooting.

The Camp Carbine's action is straight blowback, just like a .45 auto, which promotes reliability. The square bolt rides in a heavy, flat-sided receiver measuring nearly 8 inches long and over an inch wide and deep.

Nominal weight is 6-3/4 pounds, according to Marlin, but wood density can throw that figure off by several ounces either way. No matter, that's still light and easy to lug around, but sturdy enough that you don't have to baby it in the field. The stock is plain-Jane New England hardwood, finished to look like walnut. A brown rubber pad caps the stock, although it isn't needed to reduce the negligible recoil.

Overall length is just under a yard, making the Camp Carbine easy to maneuver in brushy woods. The 16.62-inch barrel length takes advantage of 9mm ballistics, by offering velocities some 20 percent higher than pistols typically achieve.

In keeping with its dual role, the Marlin uses Smith & Sesson-type 12-round pistol magazines. I carry a Model 469 S&W "mini-gun" daily, and its magazine works fine in the carbine, and vice versa. A 20-round magazine is available (which also fits my S&W 469).

A magazine disconnecter lessens the chance of an accidental round being fired while the magazine is removed. The safety is of the M-1 type, easily disengaged by moving the trigger finger slightly forward. The bolt stays open after the last round; to lock the bolt open it must either be drawn back with the magazine inserted, or the charging handle must be pushed in when the bolt is back. Closing the bolt after the last round has left it open requires magazine removal, then pulling the charging handle rearward.

For target acquisition, the Marlin car-

bine uses an open rear sight with U-shaped notch, and a hooded front ramp sight. Elevation adjustment is via steps on the rear sight.

Although the receiver is drilled and tapped for scope mounting, we feel iron sights are preferable on a weapon limited to maybe 100 yards range against coyote-sized game. Too, the gun is purposely designed to be a "point-'n'-shooter," a

(Continued on page 70)



Hooded front sight is sturdy, but so large it obscures an 8-inch bullseye at 70 yards.

Comparative Ballistics

Chronographed on a Model 33 Oehler with Sky Screen III detectors at 10 feet. Figures also shown for Smith & Wesson Model 469 with 3-1/2-inch barrel, using same lots of factory ammo. Velocities (V) shown in feet per second; muzzle energy (E) in foot-pounds.

AMMO	V/Marlin	V/S&W	E/Marlin	E/S&W
Federal 95 gn JSP	1,509	untested	480	N/A
CCI Lawman 100 gn JHP	1,392	1,179	430	309
Blazer 115 gn FMJ	1,330	1,072	451	293
Remington 115 gn JHP	1,305	untested	435	N/A
Winchester 115 gn FMJ	1,191	1,061	362	287
Winchester Silvertip	1,356	1,137	468	353
Federal 123 gn FMJ	1,234	untested	416	N/A
Remington 124 gn FMJ	1,183	untested	385	N/A
Lawman 125 gn JSP	1,132	1,011	355	283

Marlin 9mm Camp Carbine: Tech Specs

Caliber	9 millimeter Parabellum (Luger)
Operation	Blowback
Type of Fire	Semi-automatic
Lengths:	
Barrel	16.62 inches
Overall	35-1/4 inches
Weights:	
Empty, with magazine	6 lbs., 12 ozs.
With 13 rounds 115-gn FMJ Blazer ammo	7 lbs., 0.24 ozs.
With 13 rounds 115-gn FMJ brass ammo	7 lbs., 1.27 ozs.
Magazine Capacity	12 rounds (20-rnd optional at \$23)
Sights:	
Front	Hooded ramp/post
Rear	U-shaped notch, adjustable
Price, Suggested Retail	\$250

Manufacturer Marlin Firearms Co.
Dept. ASG
100 Kenna Drive
North Haven, CT 06473

Making Your Own:

Defensive Ammunition

Special application bullets, custom designed for various applications, are gaining popularity. Here's a look at some excellent defense loads . . .

By Bud Lang



IF YOU'RE a died-in-the-wool shooter, then you certainly handload your own ammo. To depend on factory ammo for all your shooting needs is just about impossible in these times. Naturally I haven't cut my costs by going to handloading, but I do shoot more for the same amount of money. Therefore, shooting is less expensive for me per round.

While all the "big" ammo makers offer components for the handloader, such as Omark, Sierra, Federal, Nosler, Hornady and Remington, there are dozens of "little" people out there offering equally-precise bullets for the handloader who really cares about accuracy and performance. Some of these bullet manufacturers are at it full-time, others are working at it part-time, but they have one goal in common: the production of high quality ammo that meets the needs of discriminating shooters.

Common sense tells us small manufacturers haven't invested the kind of bucks the majors have in bullet manufacturing equipment, therefore in no way can these smaller companies crank out the volume the majors do. However, the small firms can usually produce products the majors can't afford to tool up for. They can have dies custom made for a specific caliber and need, for runs from anywhere between a few hundred and a few thousand, something the major can't begin to consider. But here's the kicker; if you have a desire

for custom bullets, you have to pay the price. Nothing is free today.

In the event you aren't aware how individuals can make their own bullets at home, and we're not speaking of cast lead bullets, it's by a process known as swaging. According to Dave Corbin, a leader in the world of bullet swage tooling and products, swaging is a process wherein dies and punches are used under high pressures to cold-flow ductile metal into the proper shape and diameter to make highly accurate bullets.

Should you wonder why anyone would want to make bullets other than those already in production, it might be that, like Corbin, you might enjoy the freedom to design and make that "special" bullet you have always known would be a real game-getter, or to test that theory you've harbored for years as to the ideal type of wind-bucking bullet that's best for your varmint rifle. With swaging equipment and the proper dies you can do just that. Prove or disprove your theory.

The author recently had a chance to test a number of custom-made bullets offered by three different bullet makers, all independents, or "little" guys. They use swage dies to make bullets they feel will do a better job of defending law abiding citizens, and peace officers than many already on the market. Other custom bullet makers make similar bullets, as well as a variety for hunting, target shooting and sil-

houette shooting.

While eight to 10 bullet swage die-makers are currently offering their products to handloaders/bulletmakers, modern day bullet swaging got its start through the efforts of Ted Smith of Shooter's Accessory Supply (SAS) in North Bend, Oregon, many years ago. Ted really put bullet swaging on the map, so to speak. Presently the leader in this field is Corbin Manufacturing & Supply, Inc. (P.O. Box 2659, Dept. ASG, White City, OR 97503—phone—(503) 826-5211). Dave Corbin manufactures a wide line of swaging dies for use in the better reloading presses, a Mity-Mite™ bench mount swaging press and dies, and a very professional hydraulic/electronic Hydro-Press™ for the person interested in high volume work. This press will even crank out .50 caliber machine gun bullets or 10 gauge shotgun slugs with ease, as well as allow you to reload regular ammunition.

In addition to manufacturing a full line of swaging dies and presses, Corbin also offers the home bullet maker a full line of accessories such as bullet jackets, jacket material, lead core wire, lubricants and books. Everything you need to manufacture bullets, Corbin offers. He'll even manufacture custom dies to your specifications in the event he doesn't already have what you need in his inventory, which is unlikely. Corbin has records on thousands of tests he's performed over the years, and can very likely tell you what you want to know about any kind of special bullet design. He doesn't manufacture bullets, however. He's too busy producing equipment for other people who want to make bullets. And the people involved in this



Here's a Cutter bullet after it impacted a 25 pound clay block. 94 grain slug disintegrated due to open design and 1672 fps velocity, delivering all its energy in the target.



This is what the 100 grain Cutter did to a clay block from six feet. Large shards of clay were blown 50 to the front, energy transfer was so great.



A Power Plus 115 grain Annihilator bullet caused this clay block to swell up like a balloon. Bullet came apart as expected, but did not exit and dumped its energy.



This cutaway of a clay block reveals the cavity left by the Power Plus Annihilator, travelling in excess of 1600 fps. Bullet punched 8 inches into the 11-inch deep 25 pound block.



As seen from the front, both clay blocks show expansion effects of being hit by high velocity bullets. The Annihilator hit the block at the left, made a "tucked in" entrance hole. The Cutter hit the block at the right, just about destroying it.

story are some of those bullet makers. So let's take a look at some of their "special application" ammunition, ammo that is designed to fill a void left by the commercial ammo factories.

Special Applications—El Camino Products is currently producing a line of defensive bullets in .38/.357, 9mm and .45

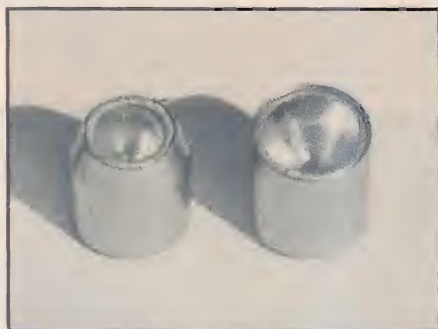
calibers. We tested some of their .357 bullets, loading them ourselves, in a Ruger GP-100 four-inch revolver and came away quite impressed. One in particular, known as the "Cutter," should prove devastating to any criminal that gets in its way. This bullet features a .437-inch long copper case with lead core extending almost to its mouth. A tapered hollow cavity in the lead core leaves this bullet with almost a knife edge about its mouth, guaranteeing it will cut through a soft target.

We tested this bullet, loaded ahead of

21.0 grains of 2400 powder in a nickel plated Federal .357 Magnum case with CCI 550 primer against our chronograph and a block of clay. This is a good, warm load when used in a larger .44 Magnum case pushing a 240 grain jacketed bullet, and is also listed in Speer's #10 Reloading Manual as a maximum load for a 110 grain jacketed .357 Magnum bullet. The El Camino "Cutter" weighs only 94 grains, therefore a reduction in chamber pressures should be realized along with a possible increase in muzzle velocity.

Instrumental velocity, measured 10 feet in front of the muzzle of our 4-inch Ruger GP-100, averaged 1672 feet per second over our Model 33 Oehler Chronotach. Felt recoil was slightly greater than experienced with a number of standard factory loads, but not objectionably so.

For our expansion tests, we fired this load into a 25 pound block of ceramic clay block measuring 7 x 7 inches x 8 inches deep, from a distance of five feet. When the "Cutter" hit the end of the clay block,



(left) A Jacketed Hollow Point and Cutter—a full wadcutter/hollow point type bullet. El Camino Products, they were made from the same swage die set, illustrating versatility in making your own bullets.



From left, Power Plus Enterprises ammo: .357 Mag Quadraplex, a 215 grain load, .357 Annihilator at 115 grains, .357 Power Ball at 120 grains, and the 120 grain 9mm Power Ball.

(Continued on page 62)

Treatment:

Management Of Cold Injuries

The most immediate problem of cold is the radiation and convection loss of body heat . . .

By Michael Cammisa



Extensive frostbite that occurred over five days resulted in gangrene in the feet of this American soldier during World War II (*Annals Of Surgery*).

THE exposure to cold in a survival situation ranks as one of the most difficult medical problems facing the survival paramedic. A disaster which forces people to abandon their homes during winter is likely to generate large numbers of survivors suffering from various degrees of cold injury. The effects of cold on the body are multiple, and all of them require special considerations in survival planning.

The first effect of cold on the body is the increase of caloric energy needed to maintain a positive heat balance. Lack of proper nutrition will result in a loss of body core temperature, and possibly hypothermia. It is also very important to maintain adequate hydration in cold weather. Because of the low temperatures, the sensation of thirst is not often demanding even with heavy exertion. In spite of the reduced sensation of thirst, the body still requires a minimum daily intake of two quarts per day. The kidneys are placed under an increased demand for elimination of wastes by the cold, necessitating an increased fluid intake for their proper functioning.

The most immediate problem of cold is the radiation and convection loss of body heat. Body heat is most rapidly lost from the head, hands and feet. Under extremely cold conditions, it is necessary to warm the breath on inspiration. An air warming mask, available in most drugstores, is use-

ful for reducing the painful effect of breathing excessively frigid air.

Cold, by itself, is not the real enemy of winter. As long as the body is producing heat, adequate layered clothing will maintain a warm layer of air around the body. As soon as most clothing gets wet (externally or from sweat), it loses all of its insulating capacity. Wool and Hollofil synthetic fiber can maintain its insulating capacity when wet. For this reason, good wool socks should be worn on the feet in cold weather. Hollofil lined gloves, coats and pants are also good insurance against loss of warmth from wetness.

The clothes you wear during the day should be carefully dried by a fire at night. An extra heavy loose woolen night suit with woolen bed socks should be part of the sleeping bag equipment. Sleeping in perspiration and snow soaked underclothing is ill advised because of the loss of body temperature that will result. A mummy-style sleeping bag filled with Hollofil is preferred for winter use. It is best to sleep naked within the bag to allow for sufficient evaporation of body perspiration.

An unfortunately too common accident of winter is total immersion into cold water by a fall through thin ice over a lake or stream. This accident can result in severe hypothermia in a matter of minutes. Crossing ice covered bodies of water should be

avoided if at all possible. If it is essential to cross ice, the following rules should be observed:

1. If wearing snowshoes, loosen the harness so that they may be quickly removed.

2. Always carry a long pole, both to test the footing ahead, and to aid in extrication if a fall through the ice does happen. While walking over the ice, hold the pole horizontally. If you plunge through the ice the pole can serve as a bridge, both checking the fall and by affording a means to climb back out.

3. Travel with your knife in front and on the outside of your clothing. A container of waterproof matches should always be kept pinned to your clothing.

4. Stay away from rocks that protrude through the surface of the ice. Walk only on the inside curves of rivers and streams. The outside curves are likely to be thin ice because the current has eroded away the underside of the ice. Avoid walking on candle ice, which is ice several feet thick that has decomposed into long, vertical needles.

If the worst happens, and you do plunge



Third degree trenchfoot affecting these feet has not killed all of the tissue. New, living tissue is revealed as the top layer of dead tissue peels away (*Annals Of Surgery*).



A trophic ulcer of the foot following frostbite.

through the ice, immediately drive the point of our knife into solid ice and use it to roll yourself out and away. It may be necessary to break away thin ice by hand to reach a surface strong enough to hold your weight. Get as much of your arms as possible over the edge of the ice and bring your body as nearly horizontal to the ice as you can, perhaps with a swimming motion of the feet, throw a leg over and roll to safety.

If only your feet have gotten wet, change your socks or squeeze them as dry as possible and wipe out the inside of the shoes or boots. Warm your feet against some other portion of the body, dress and continue on with your trek. If you become thoroughly drenched, roll quickly in the most absorbent snow available. Immediately build a fire to dry out completely. It may also be necessary to build a windbreak to prevent heat loss by convection with resultant hypothermia. After a cold plunge, drink a hot beverage to maintain body core temperature. **DO NOT** drink alcohol for warmth. It opens skin blood vessels and causes a more rapid loss of body heat than normal.

Peripheral Or Focal Cold Injuries—Sustained exposure of the cold sensitive areas of the body results in various degrees of injury, similar to the degrees of damage of burns. These are:

1. **First Degree (chilblains)**—A first degree injury results from exposure, several hours at a time, to a temperature between 32 degrees F. to 60 degrees F. It is usually associated with high humidity. Symptoms—Redness and swelling of the affected areas, burning dermatitis, tingling and later a deep-seated ache is present.

2. **Second Degree (immersion/trenchfoot)**—This occurs, in cases of immersion foot, with exposure to cold water (50 degrees and below) for twelve hours or more, or to water at approximately 70 degrees F. for several days. Immobilization and dependency of the limbs are contributing factors. Symptoms of immersion foot—Swelling of the legs and feet, bluish discoloration of the skin, numbness, itching, blisters, pain and neuro-muscular changes.

Trenchfoot occurs with exposure to damp cold (32 degrees F. to 50 degrees F.) for several hours. As with immersion foot, trenchfoot is aggravated by dependency of the limbs, prolonged immobility and tight constrictive clothing. Symptoms of trenchfoot—First is blanching of the affected part, tingling, followed by numbness. The legs and feet swell and the skin develops a dusky red or bluish discoloration and blisters develop with intense, burning pain. Neuro-muscular changes may occur if the injury is severe enough.

3. **Third Degree (frostbite)**—This injury occurs with exposure to dry cold at temperatures of -20 degrees F. or colder for a brief period, or exposure to approximately 0 degrees F. for several hours. Symptoms

—Burning pain, stinging and then numbness. Ice crystals in the skin may cause grey or white waxy coloration of the skin. The skin will move over bony prominences. Swelling and blisters may occur with aching pain requiring analgesics for relief. There may be a noticeable limitation of motion in the affected part. Death of tissues, resulting in gangrene may occur, resulting in a sloughing (casting away) of the destroyed tissues.

4. **Fourth Degree (freezing)**—This results from exposure to -20 degrees F. to -60 degrees F. and below. It may occur immediately to exposed fingers and toes, with extension to the limbs as exposure is prolonged. Symptoms—Ice crystals appear in the entire thickness of the skin down to the bone, indicated by a pallid, yellow, waxy color. The skin will *not* move over bony prominences. Swelling and large blisters, intense pain and loss of motion occurs. Gangrene of the part is almost unavoidable.

The exact mechanism of focal cold injuries is unknown. It appears to be a combination of actual cell damage caused by the cold and from changes in the blood vessels supplying the part. Modern research has shown that there are two possible mechanisms of cell injury caused by cold.

Slow cooling of cells seems to cause them to shrink in size, and then take up excess salts which cause them to swell and die. Rapid cooling results in the formation of ice crystals inside the cell. In itself, this may allow for survival of the cell if thawing is accomplished rapidly instead of slowly. Slow thawing of frozen tissue seems to cause the formation of large ice crystals inside the cell which kill it.

The vascular changes include dilation of the blood vessels with a sludging of blood in the microvasculature which arrests circulation to the cells. There also are marked differences in individual response to cold. The chances of injury by exposure to low temperatures seems to be increased in those with darkly pigmented skin, advanced in age or in poor general condition. Anoxia (lack of oxygen) caused by high altitude climbing or flying causes cold injuries at higher temperatures and with less exposure than at ground level.

Accurate determination of the actual extent of tissue damage at the time the injury occurs is impossible. The affected tissues are usually white, very cold to the touch, have lost their pliability and become hard and anesthetic with further cooling.

Treatment—Before field treatment of focal cold injuries can take place, it is necessary to remove the victim to the driest, warmest, most windproof location available. **Exchange wet clothing for dry** if possible. If transportation is to be delayed, build a fire or have the victim huddle against another person(s) within available blankets or sleeping bags. Warm hands

and feet beneath armpits and thighs. Facial frostbite can be prevented by making faces to maintain circulation and warmth. Procedures:

1. Rapidly rewarm by moist heat as in warm water immersion or with compresses. This should only be undertaken after it is certain that the victim will not suffer further injury by refreezing of the thawed parts. It is better to postpone rapid rewarming for a few hours than to be forced to repeat the process. Tissue death is certain of refreezing occurs. Once a safe place has been reached and rapid rewarming performed, no further rapid rewarming should be done even if a temporary drop in temperature occurs. The warming solution should be between 100 degrees F. and 110 degrees F., checked by thermometer. Regulated dry heat is also effective.

2. After rewarming, exposure to air at about 70 degrees F. is most satisfactory. The skin often becomes blotchy red and painful on rewarming.

3. Administer analgesics for severe pain. Aspirin, in addition to having a pain-killing effect, also reduces platelet stickiness which may aid in preventing the sludging of blood in the vessels.

4. Give warm drinks as desired.

5. If the skin is broken, it should be treated with topical antibiotics such as silver sulfadiazine or sulfamylon. Assure that tetanus immunity is current (given within the past 10 years).

6. Evaluate and treat for any coexistent trauma or illness.

7. Administer antibiotics systemically if a spreading infection is present.

8. Maintain observation until the extent of the injury can be determined (in some cases for as long as a week).



Never use snow to treat frostbite. Immersion in warm water is the proper course to follow for rewarming of frostbitten tissue.

Management Of Cold Injuries

9. The use of topical dilute dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO) has been found useful in limiting the tissue injury from excessive cold exposure. This treatment is at the present time still experimental. However, if DMSO is available, under survival conditions nothing is lost by trying it.

The above treatment regimen is based on the sound principles of re-establishing circulation and thawing frozen cells so that normal function may be resumed. In the past, many falsely conceived and dangerous procedures have been used to treat focal cold injuries. Many people still believe in these remedies because of the long standing nature of the false information. These methods should never be used.

DO NOT:

1. Rub or compress the affected part with ice, snow or cold water. Massage or friction of any kind is harmful.

2. Empty the contents of blisters or blebs.

3. Allow the use of the injured part, especially weight bearing, unless absolutely necessary.

4. Apply pressure dressings or ointment of any type.

5. Allow the use of tobacco or coffee.

6. Administer anticoagulants (such as heparin), corticosteroids (decadron), or vasodilators (inalder). They are of no value and may cause harm.

7. Perform surgery early after the injury. Frequently, the loss of tissue is superficial.

The most serious effect of cold to suffer under survival conditions is a generalized loss of body temperature, known as Core Hypothermia, or Severe Cold Exposure. Severe chilling of the whole body, resulting in a rectal temperature of 95 degrees F. or below from exposure to cold environmental conditions or immersion leads to a progressive decrease of physiologic processes that eventually becomes irreversible.

The ability to survive hypothermia depends on the length of exposure and the rapidity of cooling. Inherent constitutional factors (some persons tolerate cold temperatures better than others), environmental factors (altitude, barometric pressure, humidity) and physical condition (age, nutritional status, pre-existent disease or injury) all play a role in the development of hypothermia.

Survival after rectal temperatures as low as 60 degrees F. has been reported. A favorable physical status seems more important than the method of rewarming. Treatment of Core Hypothermia:

1. Apply blankets, preferably reflective blankets.

2. Insert a urinary catheter to monitor urine output. Intravenous fluids must be limited until kidney function is re-established, usually 12 to 18 hours after treatment has begun.

3. Conduct a careful search for any

Use of an air-warming mask will help prevent cold injuries to the body's air passages.



underlying disease processes. Hypothermia may completely mask infection and signs of other diseases. Do not administer any drugs until body temperatures approach normal.

4. Rapid rewarming is necessary if the rectal temperature is close to the lethal limit (85 degrees F. and below). Apply heat under close supervision by any and all means available. This includes warm fluids by intravenous route and by rectum. Warm liquids can be administered into the stomach via nasogastric tube. The rate of body temperature increase is not related to the methods used, and rarely exceeds 1.2 degrees F./hour.

The urinary output should be carefully monitored by catheter collection. Close observation for the signs and symptoms of the detrimental effects of rapid rewarming (cardiac instability and hypertension) must be maintained around the clock. The institution of CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) procedures may become necessary at any point during the rewarming of the hypothermia casualty.

Severe hypothermia reduces the tissue demands for oxygen. In a situation where a fall through the ice into freezing water has occurred, CPR may be effective after long-term immersion. If a rescuer finds someone who has been submerged in cold water, he should immediately commence CPR in the hope that life may be salvaged. Such resuscitation efforts carry the risk of reviving a person with severe brain damage from insufficient oxygen.

Surgical Procedures—The major complication of severe focal cold injuries is the production of gangrene in the affected tissues. This is believed to occur from the sludging of red blood cells leading to a blockage of the capillaries. The gangrene produced is commonly superficial or limited to the extremities. To prevent this sludging of red blood cells, it is recommended that low molecular weight dextran be administered intravenously along with full doses of aspirin.

Treatment of evident gangrene will be necessary if preventive measures are too

late to save the tissues. It has been observed that the strangulating effect of the black necrotic eschar frequently results in gangrene of the entire finger or toe. To prevent this, the eschar (dry slough) should be bivalved (split on two sides) as soon as possible. This operation is painless, and can be accomplished in a few minutes. If the eschar is hard and thick, it can be softened by immersion in sterile lukewarm water containing liquid soap. Some black eschars peel and leave healthy and sensitive skin underneath. Nails are often shed, but a satisfactory recovery can occur.

Gangrene of the hand should be treated with a conservative attitude. Apparently mummified fingers may peel gradually, leaving healthy fingers. It cannot be determined until a period of three months have elapsed if amputation of the digits is necessary. Amputation for gangrene induced by extreme cold can be deferred until the tissues are obviously at serious risk for infection. Amputations under field conditions should be undertaken as an extreme last resort to prevent serious systemic infection resulting from the retention of dead tissues. Under no circumstances should a paramedic perform amputation of the digits unless it is certain that life itself is threatened by overwhelming infection.

Gangrene of an entire limb is rare from environmental exposure to cold. However, there is a class of severe cold injury caused by being exposed to liquid propane used for fuel. This type of injury is common in rural areas where propane is used to fuel tractors and other farm equipment. The greatest amount of damage is done when liquid propane contacts the skin. One such case had to have an arm amputated because of deep damage to the tissues.

Though not a cold injury, a common problem of winter is snow blindness. This is caused by actual ultraviolet burns of the cornea by reflected sunlight off of snow fields. This condition is manifested by a painful inflammation of the eyes which become bloodshot, tear excessively and feel like there is grit in them. Infection commonly occurs, and is indicated by a purulent discharge that sticks the lids together. Treatment requires the application of an ophthalmic antibiotic ointment or drops (neosporin or genoptic).

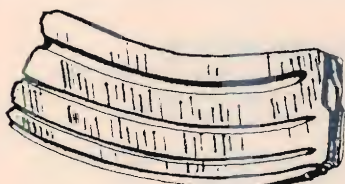
Prevention of snow blindness requires protection of the eyes from UV radiation. This may be obtained by using polarized sunglasses or goggles. A field expedient pair of snow glasses can be made by cutting small slits in a piece of birch bark for the eyes, and by turning down a little tab at the bottom of the slits. This will prevent reflected sunlight from entering the eyes. Applying lampblack along the bottom of the eyes will also aid in preventing UV eye burns. ●



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FALL/WINTER 1986-87



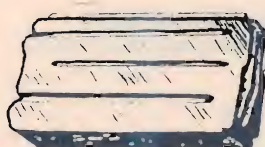
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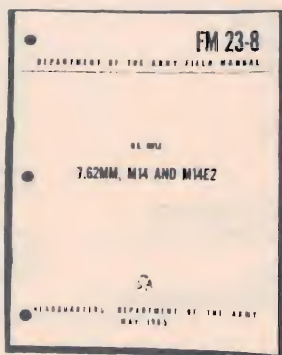
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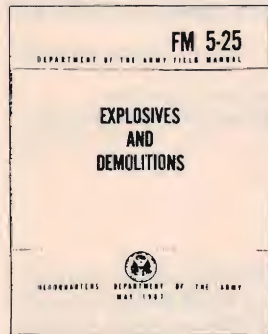
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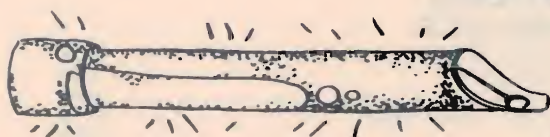
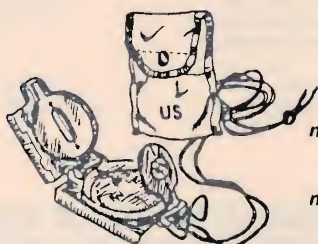
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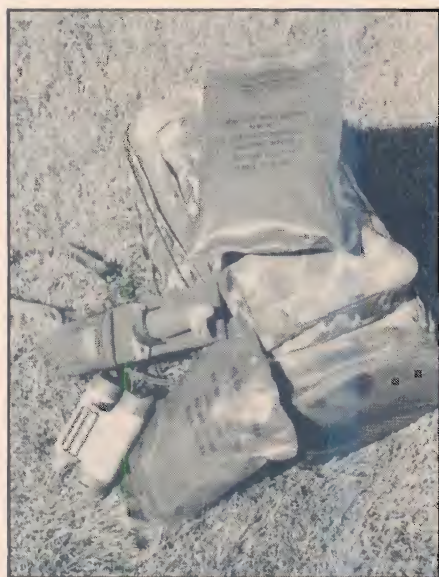
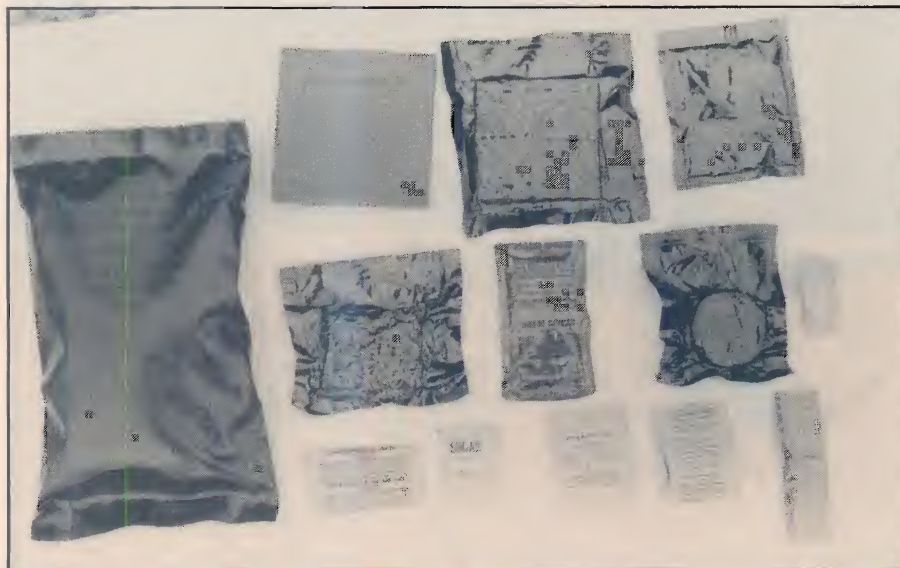
Sierra Supply

Sierra Supply:

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Current military surplus, fresh with 10-year shelf life . . .

By Bob Clark



TO regular readers of *American Survival Guide*, the name Sierra Supply should sound familiar. Owner and operator, Bill Henry, established his supply center on a shoe string budget back in the mid 1970s. Operating out of his one-room apartment Bill offered consumers a limited number of current issue military surplus products.

It was one of those small time operations makes good stories as Sierra rapidly outgrew the cramped quarters in southern California and relocated in a large complex in Durango, Colorado.

With its rapid expansion Sierra has

managed to bring to the market a seemingly inexhaustible supply and selection of surplus merchandise. From M16 accessories and inert grenades to clothing, manuals and gas masks, Sierra offers a thirsty market both new and excellent condition used, current issue military surplus products.

Recently we were introduced to the MRE (meals ready to eat) as offered in one of Sierra's flyers. We found the meals were from a current military contract (fresh) with a shelf life of 10 years. Perfect for storage or camping, each of the meals comes complete with utensils, main course and all the amenities including seasoning and desert. Weighing in at just 1 pound per meal with all components sealed in airtight 4 mil plastic bags, they are handy and element proof.

Excellent for anyone away from the comforts, the meals do not require water to reconstitute and can be eaten directly out of the pack or heated on any convenient source. Best yet, there are 10 meal selections to choose from; Turkey, pork, beef, beef patties, chicken, beef stew, meat balls, frankfurters, ham and chicken loaf and ham slices.

Just the ticket for campers, hunters, backpackers, law enforcement and survivalists, the MRE packs retail for \$33 per 10 meals plus \$5 shipping, insurance and handling. That's \$38 you can live on.

For ordering or further information on the Sierra lineup contact: Sierra Supply, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 1390, Durango, CO 81302. ●

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Camp Gun

A cheap breakdown shotgun modified for rugged use against predators . . .

By Len McDougall

A LOW, rumbling growl jolted me out of the deep sleep I was in and caused my eyes to fly open wide. Instantly awake, I lay very still under the improvised shelter I'd built and listened intently. "Grummp;" there it was again. I sat up, groping for my flashlight as my girlfriend, Jackie, asked sleepily, "What's the matter?"

"Did you hear that?", I asked back.

"Yeah, what was it?"

"I don't know," I lied, "but I'm going to find out." The truth was the area we were camped in, Jordan Valley State Forest, in northern Michigan, had become so populated with black bears that "Bear Crossing" signs had been put up to warn the unwary. This one had probably been drawn by the smell of blood from the squirrel we'd shot for supper.

In any case, I wasn't about to let him get too close. I snapped on the flashlight and reached for my camp gun, a shortened

single-shot 12 gauge loaded with single-aught buckshot. At close range—15 yards or less—my little cannon would stop a bear as surely as a bolt of lightning.

Fortunately for all parties concerned, that bear skedaddled into the brush—probably to lie down and watch us for a while—and never came close enough to be a bother again.

Had it not been for my camp gun, this potentially dangerous situation might easily have ended in disaster. Jackie and I are both survivalists, and our working guns, the ones that put meat in the skillet, are both .22 caliber rifles. I don't think I need to elaborate on the foolishness of attempting to stop a rampaging bear with a .22 Long Rifle bullet. We chose the rim-fire because for us it was best choice for an all-around survival firearm, but we were well aware of the need for something a bit more potent.

Thus the camp gun was born. I chose

the 12 gauge because, shortened to a legal 20 inches, it gave me a handy, well-balanced hip-shooter that delivers devastating firepower out to a maximum of 25 yards, in spite of the fact that it's a single-shot.

Actually, it had to be a single-shot. I would have loved to make a camp gun from a double-barrel, but paying a small fortune for a gun I was going to shorten almost made me choke to think about it. Yet I still needed a gun that was easily broken for storage in my ALICE pack (I absolutely refuse to carry two long guns; it may look "awesome" in the movies, but it's about as practical as a rollbar on a canoe), and that ruled out everything but the single-shot. A quick trip to my friendly neighborhood gun dealer got me a used Brazilian job for a mere \$35.

Back home with my prize, I immediately began the task of converting this long, unwieldy hunting weapon into a close-quarters scattergun for the camp. First came the barrel; I measured out 20 inches from the breech (two inches over the minimum legal length) and set to work with the pipecutter. After rounding off the sharp corners with a file, I hefted and pointed the finished product a few times and pronounced the operation a complete success.

But I wasn't done yet. This gun was going to be exposed to the elements and routinely subjected to punishments that would make the average sport hunter cringe in horror. My first step was to cover



Surprise. Inside this ordinary-looking backpack there's enough ballistic wallop to stop darned near anything on this continent with one close-range shot. There are few moving parts, so there are few things to go wrong. And when you're not toting it around in the woods abusing it and getting it dirty, the camp gun will be right at home as a house defender. It can be reloaded and cocked in five seconds.

the entire gun with paper camouflage tape. The tape gave it a limited resistance to moisture but it wouldn't last long before it started peeling off, so I broke the gun down and gave every exposed surface two coats of rubberized marine varnish. That scattergun sheds water like a duck. To complete the job, I sprayed liberal amounts of water-repellent silicone into every nook and cranny. Sure, all that sounds good, but results are what really count, and I've used that same shotgun for more than two years under some of the most rugged conditions imaginable, and I defy anyone to find even a speck of rust on it.

Now, I don't think anyone needs to be told about the destructive capabilities of

an open-bore 12 gauge at close quarters, but a lot of folks have their doubts about using a shotgun that needs to be reloaded after each shot. Well, believe it or not, the single-shot shotgun, in the hands of someone who's familiar with it, can be reloaded and right back in the thick of things in less than five seconds. No, it's not a combat weapon by any means, it's a tool for survival and protection in the woods, and I'd be the last person to recommend it to someone who was planning to become an active participant in a firefight.

But if you want a camp gun that's reliable, inexpensive, and entirely capable of protecting you and yours from predators in the woods—animal or otherwise—you'll find it hard to beat this little camp gun. ●

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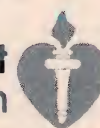
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F.I.E.

Compact Cannon

A fearsome weapon for an intruder to face . . .

By Jim Benson



Firing 2½-inch shells with birdshot, here, was a lot easier on the hands than 3-inch Magnum shells with double-ought buckshot.



The S.S.S. is 28 inches long with an 18-inch barrel.



This is a single-shot weapon and must be reloaded after each shot.

FI.E.'s S.S.S. Model single-shot shotguns are for those campers, backpackers, boaters or others who desire a "Snake Charmer" style shotgun.

The S.S.S. Model is available in 3-inch Magnum 12, 20 or .410 gauge. Overall length is just 28 inches, with an 18-inch barrel. It's made in Brazil by CBC and imported by Firearms Import and Export Corp. of Hialeah, Florida.

These are attractive break-action single-barrel shotguns with walnut-finished stocks and fore-ends and scroll-engraved receivers.

"Button-break" action makes them easy to use for both right- and left-handed shooters. Pressing the button on the front of the trigger guard enables the shooter to break open the action for loading or automatic ejection of empty shells.

A pull downward on the fore-end begins

the takedown process which is completed in seconds: just open the action in the usual manner and the barrel detaches from the receiver, leaving the gun in three parts for compact storage or transportation. Reassembly is accomplished just as quickly and easily.

The 3-inch Magnum 12 gauge S.S.S. Model loaned by F.I.E. to the ASG staff weighs about 5½ pounds empty.

These shotguns have a special device that prevents the opening or closing of the action when the hammer is cocked, and prevents cocking of the hammer if the action is not properly closed.

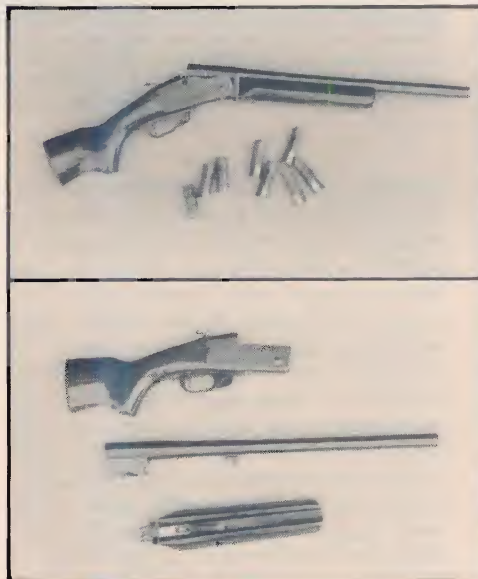
Additionally, should the rebounding hammer be accidentally released without pulling the trigger, a notch on the lower part of the hammer locks the hammer and prevents firing.

Once the weapon is loaded and the

action closed, cocking the hammer is all that's required before the S.S.S. Model is ready to shoot.

During test firing, shooters found that this shotgun has quite a kick to it when using 3-inch Magnum shells with double-ought buckshot. Trigger fingers got a bit bruised by the trigger guard slamming into them upon firing the shotgun. It was also noticed that holding only the fore-end with your supporting hand during firing tended to pull the fore-end off—beginning take-down—due to the strong muzzle flip and recoil. To avoid this, grip both the fore-end and barrel with the support hand, as shown in the photo accompanying this article. Firing the shotgun with 2½-inch shells loaded with birdshot resulted in much less recoil and barrel rise and much more comfortable shooting. Those shooters desiring less recoil would do better with the 20 or .410 gauge versions of the S.S.S.

We found this shotgun to be well made, sturdy and reliable. It would be a fearsome weapon to turn on a home or camp intruder or large predator. True, it's only a single-shot, but it can be quickly reloaded. It has a suggested retail price of \$129.95. For more information about these and other fine F.I.E. firearms see your gun dealer, or contact F.I.E., Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 4866, Hialeah, FL 33014; (305) 685-5966. ●



The S.S.S. is simple and easy to operate and quickly breaks down for storing or transporting.

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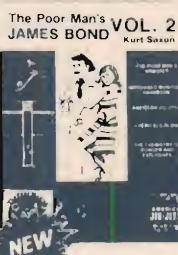
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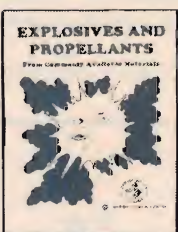
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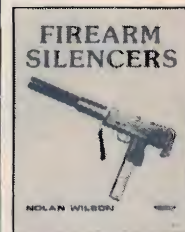
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Binoculars:

Clear Vision

A guide to sporting optics . . .

By Bob Clark



Tasco offers an extensive line of sporting binoculars. At the top of the line is the model 358MW. This type binocular is for the serious observer. Now lightweight, the size is put to good use with 10X60 optics, complete waterproofing, nitrogen filled and rugged rubber coating.

FEW PRODUCTS are as universally accepted as a "must" component for getaway, sporting, survival and military gear as are binoculars. No matter if you're taking in the wonders of nature on a back pack trip or pinpointing a potential enemy, binoculars make all the difference.

There are virtually hundreds of binoculars on the market today and they vary from total garbage to the most sophisti-

cated optical devices known to man. So, just what should you look for when buying? Well, the field of optics is a science in and of itself and I have no intention of trying to cover in four pages what has taken several hundred years and thousands of volumes to perfect. What we will present is some very basic technical data which will help you to understand what manufacturers are talking about when identifying

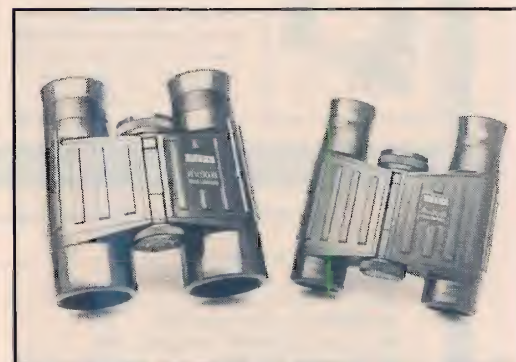
their products. This will be followed by a selection of products manufactured by the finest binocular manufacturers in the world. There are three basic types of binoculars: Galilean, Prism and Zoom.

Earliest of what could be called functional binoculars incorporated the Galilean design. This design had a single concave lens for the objective and a convex lens for the ocular, the latter being used to correct the image. Used predominately for opera glasses this design allowed for only minor magnification and limited fields of view.

Most contemporary binoculars are constructed using a Prism design. Prism binoculars use convex lenses for the ocular and objective resulting in higher magnification and wider fields of view. They also produce an inverted image which is corrected with the use of prisms. Light passes through the objective, then from one prism to the other and on to your eye producing a three dimensional effect and high magnification. Originally designed by and named after the Italian designer, Porro, all Porro style prism binoculars have the objective lenses at the front, closest to the viewed object, spaced farther apart than the ocular lens at the rear which produces the traditional offset styling. The offset has been eliminated with the advent of Roof Prism binoculars. This design is used to produce ultra thin, lightweight binoculars. Expensive to manufacture, the Roof Prism design directs light from one prism to the other in a tight triangular direction and then directly to the eye eliminating the offset. Roof Prism binoculars generally lack the depth perception found in Porro binoculars.

Finally there are Zoom binoculars. This design was developed to allow quick and convenient changes in magnification. This design does compromise some image quality. Movement of either the ocular or objective lens produces the change in magnification. Most provide for adjustment of the ocular as this enables a more compact design.

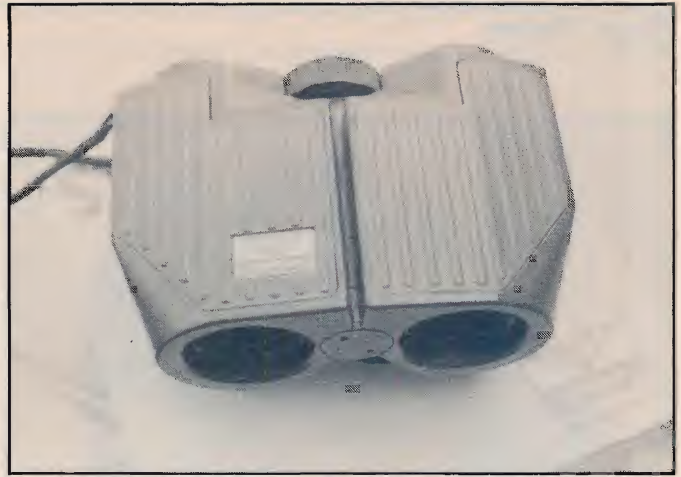
Binocular focusing is of two types: Cen-



Zeiss optics needs no introduction. Their latest introduction in the binocular market is the 8X20 BGA Kompact. Maximum durability and weatherproofing are achieved through the use of an internal focusing system while Zeiss optics provide the ultimate in clarity. Black armor rubber coating provides protection and silent running. The BGA weighs 8.3 oz.



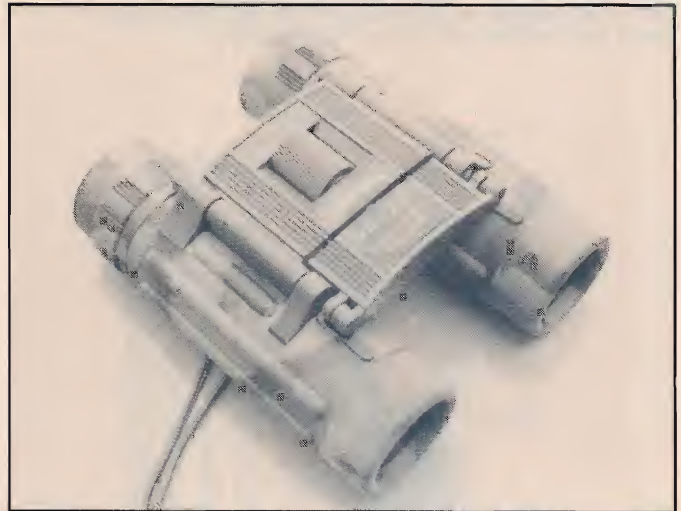
Simmons Outdoor Corp., offers shooters and outdoorsmen one of the largest selections of superior quality sporting optics. Designed specifically for outdoor activities, are the new 10X25 RCF WA and 8X30 WA. The compact offers quality and versatility in a small package. Fully armor coated the compact has an FV of 288' at 1,000 yds. The 8X30 wide angle is a fully waterproof binocular with full rubber coating, fold down eye cups and a FV of 396' at 1,000 yds.



Steiner is another name synonymous with the very finest in sophisticated optics. Their new Champ was designed to offer sporting enthusiasts Steiner quality at a reasonable price. Featuring 8X25 optics the mil/marine binocular is water resistant, lightweight, armor coated in non-glare green and provides traditional clarity and brightness.



Well known for their telescopes, Celestron offers a select number of sophisticated binoculars. Most popular with outdoorsmen is the 8X30. Features include separate eyepiece focus, waterproofing, tough rubber coating, multi-coated optics and Celestron quality. Weight is 1 lb. 11 oz.



Armsport's 711C is a high quality roof prism binocular designed specifically for the outdoorsman. Light and versatile, the 711 features 10X25 optics with a wide angle FV of 288' at 1000 yards. Finish is camo colored rubber.



Nikon's new 8X40 DCF is truly a state of the art binocular. Designed as an everyday companion for the serious hunter or sports enthusiast, Nikon's finest features rugged construction, Nikon optics, water resistance, fog proofing and an extremely bright, clear and flat image.

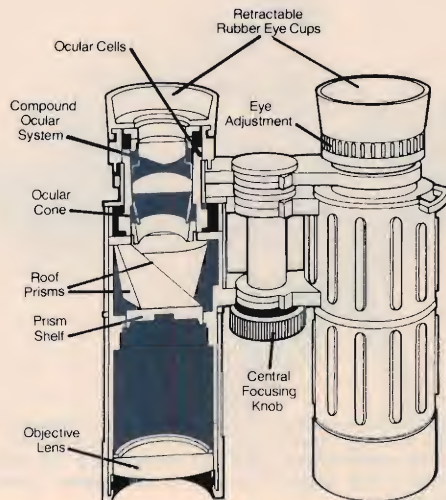
tral focusing (CF) and Individual focusing (IF). With Central focusing a single wheel is used to change the focus in both tubes simultaneously. To allow for synchronization of both eyes Central focusing binoculars are generally equipped with a diopter adjustment at one ocular, usually the right. Once synchronized the Central wheel is used for focusing. On the other hand, Individual focusing requires individual focusing for each eye. A bit more cumbersome, this design does, especially at long distances, require very little focus adjustment.

Power/Objective designations. Generally these are the most obvious identification numbers, for example 8X30, 7X42, 7X50, etc. The first number is the magnification and the second number refers to the diameter of the objective. In the reading 8X30, 8=magnification and 30=mm diameter of objective. The magnification, often referred to as strength, means the

Clear Vision



The new Mirador "Y" series is claimed to be 40 percent lighter than normal binoculars. Once again they are designed for the outdoors. The 7X42 shown produces an extremely bright and clear image. Large central focus and long eye relief are welcome features.



Made in Austria using the very finest in European optics and technology, the Swarovski SLC series offers consumers precision and compactness. The SLCs are water, fog, shock, dust, corrosion and fungus proof. Available in 7X30 or 8X30 with grey or green non-glare armor finish.



KOWA's model 722 is about as contemporary in style as you'll find. The flush surface design is used to prevent snagging. Extremely compact the 722 weighs under 8 oz. and features 7X22 optics of exceptional quality.



The Minolta Mariner line includes one zoom model. Features include adjustable magnification from 8X to 16X with a 32mm objective lens. You don't have to worry about getting those binoculars wet and they're fog proof. Weight is 19.5 oz.



ABOVE — Beeman, world renowned for precision firearms, handles a limited line of superior performance binoculars. Shown here is the 8X30 armored field binocular. Features include full rubber coating, waterproof construction and multi coated optics. The 8X30 provides excellent light gathering capabilities, distortion free image and an exceptional FV of 435' at 1,000 yards.

ABOVE RIGHT — Bushnell binoculars sport world renowned Bausch and Lomb optics. Shown here is the new 8X25 Ensign compact. This camo armored lightweight features folding design with, center focus, and wide angle optics which provide a FV of 430' at 1,000 yards.



New from Pentax is this futuristic looking 7X21. Designed for versatility they feature a single piece heavy duty interior and tough rubber coating. The 7X21 is only 4.1 inches tall and weights 11.9 oz.

BELOW — For nearly a century the Brunton Co. has been supplying adventurers with the finest in expedition and sporting gear. The most recent addition to an already extensive line is the Tracker II, roof prism binocular. Contemporary design incorporates extremely rugged construction, 7X42 optics, shock and water resistance, bright clear distortion free image and grey armor coating.



object appears that number of times closer than normal vision can depict.

Objective dimensions will tell you how much light the lens collects. The larger the object the more light it collects. However, the factor governing how bright the image you see will appear is the numerical spread between the magnification and objective. The greater the spread the brighter the image. A 7X30 will produce a brighter image than a 7X20.

The "Field of View" is the width of the viewing area measured in feet at 1000 yards. The real angle of view measures from the binocular to the edges of the viewing field. The higher the angle value the greater the field of view. The Apparent

angle of view is that which is apparently visible because of the apparent reduction in distance between binocular and subject due to magnification.

As mentioned earlier I could go on indefinitely discussing optic theory and design. However, the above information will give you enough basic information to make a better choice when buying. As with everything else, you get what you pay for so why leave performance to chance. The binoculars shown here are not the only high quality units available but they do represent the very finest. Take a look at the various designs, powers and features and determine which best fits your needs.

●

Optics Sources

Armsport Inc., Dept. ASG
3590 Northwest 49th Street
Miami, FL 33142

Beeman Precision Arms, Dept. ASG
47 Paul Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903

Brunton, Dept. ASG
620 East Monroe
Riverton, WY 82501

Bushnell, Dept. ASG
300 N. Lonehill Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773

Celestron, Dept. ASG
2835 Columbia
Torrance, CA 90503

Kowa Optimed Inc., Dept. ASG
20001 South Vermont Avenue
Torrance, CA 90502

Minolta Corporation, Dept. ASG
101 Williams Drive
Ramsey, NJ 07446

Mirador Optical Corporation, Dept. ASG
4051 Glencoe Avenue
Marina Del Ray, CA 90292

Nikon Incorporated, Dept. ASG
623 Stewart Avenue
Garden City, NY 11530

Pentax Corporation, Dept. ASG
35 Iverness Drive East
Englewood, CO 80112

Simmons Outdoor Corporation, Dept. ASG
14205 Southwest 119th Avenue
Miami, FL 33186

Pioneer & Company, Inc.
& Steiner Binoculars, Dept. ASG
216 Haddon Avenue
Westmont, NJ 08108

Swarovski Optik/Division of
Swarovski America, Dept. ASG
1 Kennedy Drive
Cranston, RI 02920

Tasco Sales, Inc., Dept. ASG
3625 N.W. 82nd Avenue
Suite 310
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Zeiss Optical Incorporated, Dept. ASG
1015 Commerce Street
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Southwest:

Operation Four Corners

A survivalist exercise . . .

By Tom Pain

THE AIR shimmered as I looked thru the scope on my H&K 91. The heat reflected cruelly off the volcanic rocks I was stretched out on. The wind was blowing hard and my mouth felt as if a pack rat had made a nest in it.

To top it off the targets I was engaging were just the first two in a long rifle problem. These first two were tough! At 200 yards there was a hostage problem, some slime bag had a lady hostage with a pistol to her head. Back 450 yards from an elevated position was a sniper just waiting for you to move against the vermin with the hostage. As soon as you shot the kidnapper, the sniper would locate your position and shoot you. Who should I shoot first? Take the sniper and the hostage might get shot. My finger made the decision for me and I took out the kidnapper and then quickly sighted on the sniper hidden in the trees so very far away.

Sound Challenging? It was! Early last June survivalists from California, New Mexico, Colorado and Arizona gathered in eastern Arizona at a survivalist exercise called Operation Four Corners. The exercise was put on by The Northern Arizona Survival League, Phoenix Group Seven from New Mexico and Live Free Inc. Live Free is trying hard to help survivalists educate themselves and become more self reliant. Events like this occurred all over the country this year, sponsored by Live Free so that more will live.

We did a lot more than shoot at Operation Four Corners. The three-day exercise started with a lecture/seminar on gunsmithing for the survivalist and battery selection. This seminar was given by Scott Selby of A to Z Gunsmithing, one of the best gunsmith's in the United States. Selby has also shot a lot of competition matches as well as taught weaponcraft of all types. This unusual combination made for an educational learning experience. Next a seminar was given on subsistence trapping by a veteran trapper, this type of knowledge is hard to gain as few people trap anymore. A class in survival knot tying was given next by Jeri Rogers, a Boy Scout leader. The basic survival knots were stressed such as bowlines, square knots and some hitches however, towards the end of her seminar Rogers instructed the mainly male participants on how to tie a body basket and even a horse's halter.

After a quick lunch came a seminar on land navigation and compass use. This information enabled some to participate in a 15-mile orienteering course the next day.

Later a quick seminar was given in camouflage, then participants divided into two teams and held an evasion exercise. One team searched and one would hide, roles were then reversed. All types of concealment were tried from facepaint and camoed rain ponchos to a woodland camo body bag. One participant tried to merge with and imitate the searching team. Overall it was a unique experience. Leo Weiss, an *American Survival Guide* contributor, was the overall camouflage exercise winner.

Highlight—The real highlight of the exercise for many occurred the next day. This was the two-gun combat instruction exercise and survival land navigation course. The day started with a 31-round combat rifle instruction course. The participant had the option of just shooting through the course or getting individual instruction. All of the targets were hidden in brush and the ranges went from 5 to 450 yards. All types of firearms were used, many with optics. The winner of the rifle event was Jerry Younkens another frequent contributor to *American Survival Guide*. Jerry won the event with a Dae Woo assault rifle (5.56 NATO) without optics. An overall sterling performance on a very tough rifle course that was very realistic.

A pistol course was run later in the day with target acquisition once again stressed. Situations and ranges varied but all participants agreed that these training courses were unique, realistic and challenging. Scott Selby won this event with an AMT .45 caliber Hardballer.

After the shooting, the earlier mentioned land navigation course was held. Participants navigated with a compass and map from station to station over this 5-mile course. Each station required the entry to perform some survival skill. These skills ranged from finding where the station was on a map or tying a bowline correctly to taking quizzes in radiation defense, general survival and emergency medical procedures. First place here went to the team of Curt Hatfield and Leo Weiss. At the day's end points were tallied from the camo exercise held Friday, the rifle and

pistol exercise and the land navigation course. Overall winner was Curt Hatfield.

These exercises are unique in that they give people a chance to learn new skills while being challenged by other participants. Overall a very effective formula. Sunday came and some very tired survivalists were happy to just sit and listen to a seminar given on possible future survival scenarios. Each individual was asked, What would you do in this survival situation? For example, What would you do if terrorist put highly radioactive and deadly plutonium particles in your city's main gasoline storage facility? Each car then filled with that gasoline would become an emitter of highly dangerous plutonium particles. This brainstorming session answered many questions of the gathered survivalists and made fodder for interesting thought for years to come.

The last of the seminars was given by Jerry Younkens on emergency survival kits. The kits were examined and explained and strengths and shortcomings discussed. Both homemade and commercial kits were scrutinized. Directions were given on how to make your own.

Operation Four Corners also offered a chance for those in attendance to see equipment and gear they had never seen before. A fully equipped all terrain survival bicycle was exhibited. Directions on how to turn your dog into a pack animal or just let him carry his own gear. Also many knives were sold at below wholesale prices. Overall the operation was a success with many new friendships and survival alliances forged. This is a good example of survivalists working together to benefit all.

This year we concentrated on field survival. Next summer the second weekend in June we plan to have another survival exercise on different areas of survivalism. All Live Free members are welcome. If you would rather attend first to find out what Live Free is all about, feel free. We need more instructors also. To find out more or to volunteer services or just to reserve a place for yourself write to Northern Arizona Survival League, PO 894, Snowflake, AZ 85937. If you wish to learn more about Live Free's newsletter, membership or survival groups in your area, write Live Free, Box 1743, Harvey, Illinois 60426. The future belongs to those who practice, learn and prepare. ●



This shooter uses a scoped H&K 91 during the rifle course.



Survivalist author Jerry Younkins talks about survival kits



Participants are instructed in knot tying.

Domestic, Wild Plants:



This mini-greenhouse, made from two old storm windows and other odds and ends, enables Steve to plant seedlings two weeks before the last frost of the season. Internal temperature is as much as 20 degrees F. higher than outside of the greenhouse.

Backyard Garden

One source of food within reach of all . . .

By Marc V. Ridenour

LET'S call him Steve. He's young, single, a vegetarian and a pacifist. He's not into survival-preparedness *per se*, but his Mormon background and an urge for naturally grown foods have led him into what could be considered survival gardening.

He lives in a house he's buying and has used the back yard and side yards as his garden plots. He grows a variety of domestic food plants in his garden, along with a variety of transplanted wild edible plants and medicinal plants he has transplanted from finds he made while hiking and camping in the forest areas of the countryside.

In addition to his above mentioned activities, he's also deeply interested in the lifestyles of the prehistoric and early-recorded-history Native American tribes.

His knowledge in this regard might enable him to subsist relatively comfortably in the boondocks should he be com-

pelled to flee the urban scene.

The list of food crops he has grown is formidable:

Broccoli, red and green cabbage, brussell sprouts, potatoes, tomatoes, califlower, carrots, peas, beans, gourds, pumpkins, acorn & butternut squash, turnips, asparagus, onions, beets, rhubarb, strawberries, red and black berries—and as I have stated, some wild edible and medicinal plants he transplanted. He also grows aloe vera in a large flower pot on his porch for medicinal purposes.

He also has arranged a collection of old wash tubs and buckets beneath his downspouts to capture rainwater, so any dry spells can be, for a time at least, cushioned.

The drawbacks to his gardening scheme are: as a vegetarian, he won't use traps to protect his garden from rabbits and other critters who have made out like bandits in forays against other gardeners' pea



An aloe vera plant is grown in a flowerpot on the front porch for medicinal purposes.

patches. He also won't use pesticides at all—even those which would be mild and perhaps somewhat biodegradable. He does, however, use natural controls—insects that eat the ones harmful to his plants. The praying mantis and ladybug are two he plans to import and release into the garden. He also encourages frogs, toads

and nonpoisonous snakes to make his garden their habitat—also insect eaters.

If it were my garden I'd fence it with chickenwire and set #110 Victor Conibear traps along the outer edges and inside the rows, well-baited with peas and beans.

I would also use larger rainwater collectors—20-gallon trash cans, rather than the buckets and tubs he uses. The open buckets would attract mosquitoes and lose water to evaporation. Whereas the trash cans' tight-fitting lids would preclude either from happening.

As for doing it totally naturally, I'd use recommended pesticides exactly as directions specified *and* I would also become well acquainted with natural pest control methods should the time come when you can't get pesticides anymore. I would use both methods, if possible, trying to preclude damage to the natural method with use of pesticides.

However, my acquaintance has accomplished a lot. He has achieved maximum use out of much of his space, although the mixture of aesthetic with practical (flowers amid the food) may raise a few eyebrows. But perhaps it will also attract bees to pollenate his plants more readily.

He's growing enough to feed himself,

Steve has laid out his garden in many small patches.



Sunflowers and tomato vines grow along the side of the house, utilizing that space for growing food also.

including his own hard-seed corn to grind into flour to bake his own bread and biscuits with. And, when he marries and has a family, no doubt by growing more in his back and side yards, he could manage to supply much of their total food requirements.

His house is also geared toward some self sufficiency: He has a fireplace and probably lamps and candles. To round it off, he should sink a well in his back yard to assure a steady supply of water if it can be done.

However, he has totally discarded any notions of being prepared for any type of

war scenarios, including atomic, biological or chemical weapon attacks against the U.S., and being a pacifist, objects to firearms on moral grounds. However, he did express an interest in a crossbow, so perhaps his idealism is being tempered with necessary pragmatism. I would hope so.

All told, he has done a very credible job of establishing a garden to make him as self sufficient for food as possible.

We should view his efforts and use whatever land we may have in *our* back and side yards (front yards too perhaps) to begin growing our own food—both for the short haul and for the long haul. ●



One or two types of plants are planted together, side by side, in small beds.

Getting Out:

Self-Rescue Winches

There are several ways to create winches from common devices . . .

By Ralph Zumbro



SAND, mud and snow are the ultimate levelers. If you spend much time away from paved roads, sooner or later you are going to find yourself helplessly mired. No matter how many tricks you may know, there will come a time when you simply can't find traction. It happens to all of us who tread the far places.

I've seen Army tanks buried to the turret in rice paddies, and Chevy Blazers in soup that's too thin to walk on and too thick to swim in. It even happens to four-footed critters. Ancient swamps are full of the fossilized remains of unfortunate creatures that lost traction and starved, or were eaten in place.

If necessity is the mother of invention, then desperation certainly was the father. There are several ways to create winches out of common devices; and one way to put the full power of your engine to work is to use a capstan winch. The prime requisite of all rescue techniques, though, is to carry at least 100 feet of $\frac{1}{2}$ - to $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch nylon line because the solid object needed for winching is *never* within reach of whatever device you are using. Let's take the necessary gadgets in ascending order of expense, and discuss the most affordable one first.

The Lever—One of the oldest of man's tools will get you out of many a hole. Sometimes there's a suitable pole lying around but, by carrying a light hatchet, you can always create one. It can be used to lift

a vehicle so that you can fill the wheel hole with rocks, but it can also work horizontally.

You'll need rope, a lever, a fulcrum and force. The shorter the distance between the load (the line attached to the vehicle) and the fulcrum, the less work you will have to do. The greater the distance between you and the fulcrum, the more work you *can* do. If you can push with a force of 200 pounds, and are 10 feet from the fulcrum, that car *has* to move.

Modified Jack—You've already got three-quarters of this one. Your car's bumper jack is simply a ratcheting lever. It doesn't care whether it is lifting or pulling. In order to make it pull, you have to do only two things: Provide a way to attach the stand to a tree or post, and connect the ratchet to the car.

By drilling a half-inch hole in the *top* of the jackstand and inserting a clevis in the hole, you gain the ability to attach a line to it with a bowline knot. The lift ratchet is slightly more complicated, as there are so many versions on the market. All, however, are designed to lift several tons of iron reliably and, in most cases, drilling another hole for a clevis will do the trick.

Some are easier than others. Plymouth, for example, uses a stamped nub that fits a punched hole in the bumper. By happy coincidence, a link of $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch chain just fits over the nub. The other end of the



Step one in winch creation is drilling the holes.



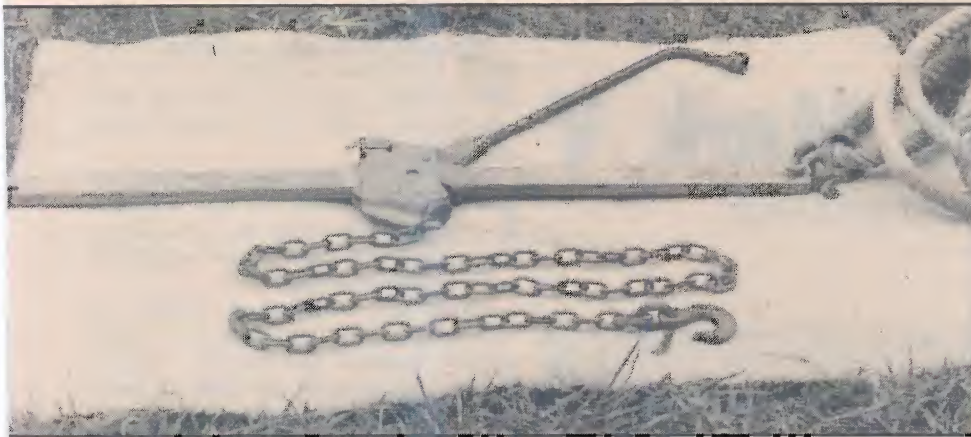
The friction drum bolted in place.



Here the drum is in place and pulling.

chain can be hooked over a bumper mount.

In use, these gadgets are fastened between the car and a tree or some other object. When the jack has been run all the



Adding a clevis to the top end of a common bumper jack allows it to be attached to a tree or post. The chain can be hooked to any convenient part of the vehicle's frame.



A relatively inexpensive boat trailer winch can be equipped with a chain so it can act as a vehicle retrieval device.

way up, it is let "down" and the slack taken up on the rope, allowing another three-foot pull. As far as the jack is concerned, gravity has simply been rotated 90 degrees.

Come-Along—This humble device usually retails for around \$25 in a hardware store. And for a few more bucks, you can get a force multiplier called a "snatch block" which doubles the mini-winch's pull while halving its reach. The same methods apply to this as to the modified jack. You must have the long rope and chain, as the come-along has a limited reach, and no modern car has a bumper that will take a direct pull. You have to use a chain, and find a hard spot on the frame (a shock absorber, McPherson strut, or steering linkage, are *not* acceptable anchorages).

Trailer Winch—The cheapest price for one of these is about \$40, but they're well worth the price. The weakest of them will haul three quarters of a ton, and some models will lift a small car straight up. What you'll have to be wary of in this **number-happy society**, is that these little gems have two ratings; their direct pull, and the estimated weight of boat that it will slide onto a trailer. You will want to use the former, accurate figure, not the

inflated one.

There are two ways to use these winches; either mount one directly on the vehicle or make a portable mount. The vehicular mount has several disadvantages. First, most bumpers aren't strong enough and bracing will be required, if you can find something strong enough to take the load. Second, the mount will have to stick out far enough to provide clearance for the handcrank. Third, and most important,



In an emergency, a simple lever can move you about a yard. Many times that's enough.

you don't know which end you're going to have to heave from, so the portable mount makes the most sense.

The mount consists of either reinforced plywood (1½ inches is minimum) or a light steel base. The angle of pull is less important than the strength of the chain anchor points, because they must not be able to pull through the wood. The chain itself must be equipped with a grab hook which will lock to the chain at any given point. **WARNING!** Never stand directly in line with a line, rope or cable which is under load, as it can snap back with enough force to remove body parts. And, for God's sake, don't straddle the cable while cranking!

Drum Winch—We've all seen the boating movies where the old sailor gets ready to raise his anchor. There's a little housing on his foredeck with a small rotating drum sticking out of it. He takes a few turns of the anchor line around it and pulls slightly. The friction of the rope against the drum provides traction and the anchor comes up. Unless, of course, that sucker's hung up under a coral head, in which case our happy sailor dons mask and flippers and does it the hard way.

The point of this is that if your wheels are spinning anyway, and if you had one of

(Continued on page 72)



The trailer winch is in place and pulling.

Compact Accuracy:

Action Arms Mark V

Zeroing in on the lightest and smallest electronic sight . . .

By Bob Clark



The Action Arms Mark V electronic sight is very likely the smallest and lightest such sight on the market. The 5 1/8-inch aluminum sight offers parallax free, single-plane red dot aiming in a compact package. Sight utilizes any standard 1-inch ring mount assembly.

ACTION ARMS has built a reputation for supplying American shooters with two of the most respected names in firearms. The world renowned UZI is possibly the most widely acclaimed carbine in modern history. Israel Military Industries, manufacturers of the UZI, also produce the popular Galil rifle, another of Action's U.S. offerings. These two weapons have established Action Arms as a distributor of only the very finest in firearms.

In keeping with their elite reputation, Action has added Samson and UZI ammunition to their lineup along with the Action Mark V sight. Manufactured by I.M.I. to the same rigorous standards as

their firearms, UZI and Samson ammunition are distributed in the U.S. under the Action Ammo name.

Over the past few years electronic sights have popped up in just about every shape and size imaginable. And, with their refinement have been accepted by hunting, sport and competition shooters. Of the recent crop of electronic sights the Mark V Action sight is the lightest and smallest we have encountered.

The Mark V offers target shooters and hunters parallax free, single plain red dot aiming in a sight measuring 5 1/8 inches in length. Manufactured from 1-inch aluminum tubing the sight is extremely rugged

and light weight.

Nitrogen filled and waterproof, the Mark V features an adjustable intensity LED aiming point for rapid low light acquisition under the most severe conditions.

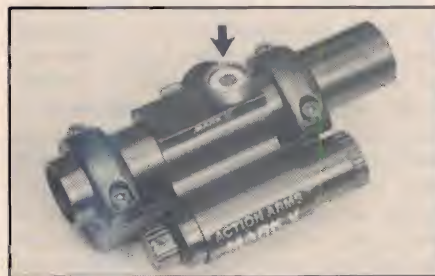
Power for the Mark V is supplied by a pair of PX/RM 640 mercury batteries. Depending on intensity used the battery life varies greatly but the average appears to be around 500 hours.

Quick and effective adjustments for windage and elevation are made by traditionally mounted and capped adjusting screws. Adjustments are made in increments of 1/4-inch at 100 meters.

Mounting can be achieved on virtually any weapon with appropriate 1-inch ring mounts. As the overall length may be too short for sporting rifles with long distances between bases, an extension tube is supplied. The tube threads securely into the front portion of the sight.

We really put the Mark V through its paces. It was mounted and used on a variety of rifles, carbines and handguns in different types of weather. After three to four thousand rounds of firing the only problems we encountered was with one of the clamps on rifle mounts. While using extremely heavy loads the mount bucked from its base sending the Mark V in a tail-spin and into a rocky shelf. A substantial jolt on impact produced a rather nasty tweak at one end of the tube. After a quick on-site visual inspection the sight was remounted and checked for accuracy. Not only did it function flawlessly but the original zero was maintained.

Available through better gun shops nationwide the Mark V retails for \$183.50. For further information and a dealer nearest you contact: Action Arms, Ltd., P.O. Box 9573, Dept. ASG, Philadelphia, PA 19124. ●



Adjusting either the windage or elevation knob by one increment moves the point of impact 1/4 inch at 110 yards.



Intensity of red dot is easily adjusted by rotating the potentiometer knob located at rear of the battery compartment.

Chest Pouches

(Continued from page 78)

fashioned know-how and manual skills. All share an equal part in what we hope to achieve.

This article will deal not with weapons themselves, but rather with the accessories that make a weapon system more effective.

Having had contact with some survival groups and individuals in my area, I've seen many in need of an effective means to carry their ammunition and field gear. This is not to say that military load bearing equipment is not usable, not by any means. Its advantages are many, but its comforts few.

On the plus side, it is relatively inexpensive if purchased at a surplus store, it will carry goodly amounts of ammunition, it will also accommodate most any piece of military field gear made.

It's disadvantages are also legion. Worn over thin clothing, or over long periods of time, it chafes to the point of pain at the slightest movement. Brass hardware wears shiny, fasteners corrode and may even creak audibly, and it does not allow the use of an efficient pack should that need arise. Try wearing a well designed North Face, Lowe, JanSport or Kelty pack over a fully loaded LC-1 combat harness. Shoulder straps ride uncomfortably atop suspenders, harness attaching clips bore holes in one's back, and if anyone has ever been able to buckle a padded hip belt over or under two or three M-16 clip pouches, I'd like to hear from you to know how!

The LC-1 backpack? Crude, but usable. I must admit that I'd rather have it than nothing, but there are more efficient, (certainly more comfortable), designs available on the commercial market. With that thought in mind, I set out to design a load bearing system that would allow shooters to wear the designed packs available today.

While I don't advocate the nomadic approach to surviving the aftermath of whatever is to come, these designs should prove useful to those who need to wear a pack for such things as extended patrols, bringing in large game, or those who by necessity of misfortune must "escape and evade." A well made pack has more carrying capacity than it's military counterpart and is certainly more comfortable.

There exists on the commercial and surplus markets, many belt mounted box magazine carriers. Not to mention well made, (and not-so-well made), versions of the Rhodesian/Chi-Com type chest pouches. One need only leaf through a magazine such as *ASG*, *SWAT* or *Soldier of Fortune* to find distributors for the best, (and worst) designs currently available.

My search however, was for a low cost, do-it-myself alternative. I thought also to improve on current designs and increase the comfort level to greater than that of

(Continued on page 60)

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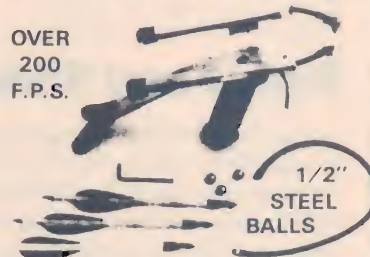
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Chest Pouches

(Continued from page 59)

commercial offerings.

Any military surplus store worth its salt is going to carry M-16 and M-14 clip pouches. As these will hold many other types of magazines as well, I started with those two. Experimentation revealed just how many different clips fit the two pouches mentioned. The M-16 pouch will fit, naturally, M-16 clips as well as the Steyr AUG and Ruger Mini-14. M-14 pouches will fit clips for the M-14/M-1A, HK91, FN-FAL, AR-10, Galil .308, and the Holloway Arms .308, which uses a modified AR-10 clip.

I've acquired what I suspect to be four Canadian Bren Gun magazine pouches. These tan, heavy canvas pouches were purchased for use in this article as they are of exact length and ample width to hold three AK-47 30-round magazines. They will also hold HK93 25-round mags, 30-round HK91 or FN-FAL mags, as well as the Valmet M-76 AK style .223 mags. With foam spacer blocks, Springfield Armory 25-round M-14/M-1A magazines will also fit.

For those who envision picking up Soviet battlefield weapons, this pouch will also accept AK-74, AKM, and squad level RPD weapon magazines.

Blueprint—I set out to construct three chest pouches using the same "blueprint" for each one. Each is similar as all three utilize scrap, heavy nylon webbing, double cap rivets (size medium), 1-inch D-rings and 2-inch Fastex buckles.

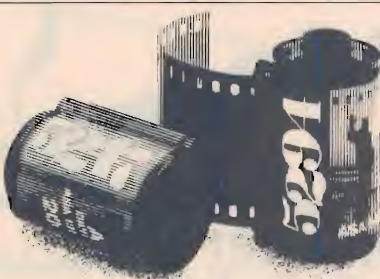
The X harness seen in all photographs was made from the cannibalized shoulder strap of my North Face duffle bag. These carry straps can be purchased separately at jock shops or backpacking outlets for \$6 to \$10.

Assembly begins on all pouches by first removing web belt clips, excess straps and buckles, and miscellaneous attachments such as the grenade pockets from the M-16 pouches. Halfway through this operation I decided to retain the two outermost pockets on the M-16 pouches.

Next, the three pouches used in each project are placed side by side and joined by rivets and heavy nylon strap. D-rings are attached when the lower joining strap is riveted in place. These are the lower attachment points for the X harness. After this has been completed, two additional pieces of strap, one down the length of each outside pouch, are riveted to the first two main straps. These bear most of the weight of the finished pouch as they are the upper attach points for the X harness Fastex buckle bases. Complete steps of assembly of the M-16 and AK chest pouch are illustrated.

Manufacture of the X harness is a simple operation. Step one was to remove the leather non-slip patch sewn on by the

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thoughtful folks at North Face. The length adjust fittings can be cubbyholed as they are not used in the harness. I then riveted the snap hooks to the ends of the strap before cutting it in half. This makes the two essential pieces of the harness.

The original idea behind the X shape of the harness was to produce a support device that would give a snug fit, yet still allow freedom of movement. The result is a "cross-your-heart" arrangement, only between one's shoulder blades. The main weight of these chest pouches is not on the lower neck vertebrae but on the shoulder and back muscles where it belongs.

The only thing I was not happy with was having to fumble around behind my back to find the straps. I solved this by simply riveting on two small retaining straps. If the straps are crossed then riveted together permanently, the benefits of freedom of movement and an even weight distribution are lost.

I bought an LC-1 backpack for only \$6 with the idea of putting a shoulder strap on it. I started work on it by removing every strap and buckle, the liner, even the little plastic window. All that was left was the bag itself, the flap and two small web tabs, with a small grommet affixed near the end of each. These serve as attaching tabs for the LC-1 harness. Instead of cutting them off and making a shoulder bag, I used two double cap rivets, (size large), and attached it directly to the bottom of the chest pouch I'd made from the M-14 magazine pouches. Longer rivets were needed due to the thickness of the grommets themselves.

I dug out some scrap nylon strap and a 3/4-inch Fastex buckle and riveted on a waist strap about halfway down the back of the empty mag bag. Now it stays put whether I'm running or just tying my boots.

Also added was a small patch of velcro to make double sure the flap stayed put. It's only about 3 inches by 2 inches but secures the flap adequately, yet still allows quick access to the inner bag.

With the exception of the supposed Bren Gun pouches, each chest pouch in this article was built for under \$15. The Bren pouches were \$4.50 each, a small price to pay considering they were the only thing I could find to fit the Russian AK style magazine. I still built that particular pouch for less than \$20.

Shedding a pack to rest, or in an emergency situation, does not rid oneself of his or her means of self defense. Ammunition and essential survival equipment remain attached to the body or are carried in the pockets. Such items as map and compass, magnesium fire starting block, fishing gear and snare wire, perhaps a battle dressing and space blanket as well, should be carried in one's clothing at all times. ●

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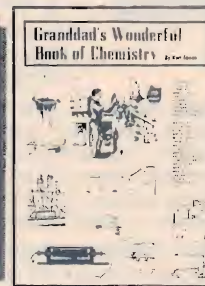
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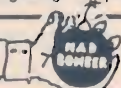
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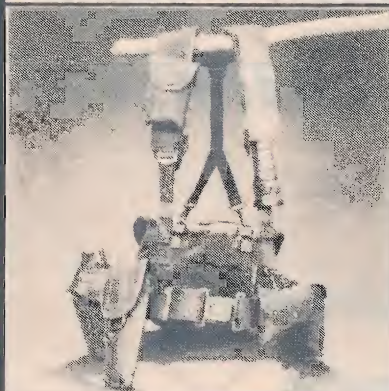
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(Continued from page 35)

my face and body were instantly sprayed with hard chunks of that goeey material, as pieces flew a maximum distance of 50 feet in my direction. As you can see from the photos, the block expanded to a width of 12½ inches and the top was almost blown out. This is real energy transfer. The bullet penetrated to a depth of about five inches, opening up completely, leaving tiny shards of lead throughout the clay and only a flattened copper jacket at the rear of the expansion cavity. This is desired because it means the bullet very likely won't pass on through a real target.

John Smithson, of El Camino, also swages the Cutter to produce a tapered nose hollow point with open tip, delivering a bullet that is a bit more accurate with the same amount of energy transfer and velocity. We achieved three-shot groups from 30 feet with these bullets averaging between .64-inch and 1.3-inch, all shot offhand. Velocities ran between 1427 and 1662 fps for these 94 grain slugs, in .357 mag chambering, due to variations in powder and charges.

This company also manufactures excellent 94-grain jacketed hollow points in 9mm and 190-grain JHPs in .45 caliber. Both bullets are cannellured for better case gripping.

Another line of custom bullets we tested (actually complete cartridges) came from Power Plus Enterprises. Rob Lewis, president of PPE, produces a full line of handgun, rifle and shotgun rounds for law enforcement, military and self defense use.

Power Plus furnished us with a selection of loaded ammunition in .38 Special, .357 Magnum and 9mm Parabellum, and as of this moment we've had an opportunity to test the .38s and .357s. He reportedly will have .45 ACP and .44 Magnum loadings available by the time this article appears in print. In our sampling we found his Annihilator ammo, jacketed hollow cavities, to be quite potent. Especially when that cavity is packed with an incendiary or explosive mixture. These rounds, by necessity, are available only to military or law enforcement agencies. A primer located in the nose detonates the charge on contact. Their Power Ball ammo is similar, with the exception of a steel ball encapsulated in the hollow cavity. Upon contact, the ball is forced to the rear, guaranteeing mushrooming.

The PPE Annihilator bullets weigh only 115 grains each, permitting the company to load them to ultra-high velocities. We're not sure what length barrel Lewis used in his tests, but our velocities were a bit lower, although still high for a cartridge of this caliber. For example, his .357 Mag Annihilator is rated at 1800 fps. During our tests, this round averaged closer to 1680 fps. Their .38 Spl Annihilator is rated at 1300 fps. The 120 grain Power Balls are



Here's a look at Power Plus's Quadraplex load, which totals 215 grains. It leaves the muzzle at around 1000 fps and punches four holes in the target, even at close range.

rated at about the same velocity as the Annihilators.

All of these rounds have one thing in common: they're light weight and loaded for high velocity. Reason: to penetrate deeply while disintegrating with devastating force, so as to inflict as much trauma and damage as possible.

The Exception—Now comes the exception. The Power Plus Quadraplex loading in .357 Magnum. This round is a small jacketed hollow cavity backed by three round lead discs. Total weight of the four slugs is 215 grains. Loaded to 1000 fps, this package is running at high speed when you consider the weight in question. This load is designed for close in "work," and sends four projectiles at the target rather than one, not so much so as to guarantee you don't miss but to inflict a lot of crime stopping pain.

We fired a .357 Mag Annihilator into a stack of dry phone books and the slug penetrated about 5 inches while disintegrating, producing a clean caliber-diameter entrance hole. A similar round with a flash powder in the nose went but half as deep, but singed pages on the way through after producing a massive entrance hole and ruptured pages one-half inch below its final place. When we fired one of the plain .357 Mag Annihilator's into a 25 pound block of ceramic clay, the bullet produced a tear drop cavity upon entering and penetrated about 8 inches. The top and sides of the block were swollen somewhat from the hydrostatic shock produced when the clay absorbed the energy of the striking bullet.

John Kaelberer of J&J Custom Bullets is currently offering a 110 grain .38/.357 jacketed hollow point bullet called the Crimestopper. It's very similar to the Cutter discussed earlier, in that its jacket and lead leading edge produces an outstanding defensive bullet .485-inch long. It features a deep cavity and a very thin edge, so the slug will cut right through any soft target. This bullet can be loaded into any



Crimestopper bullets from J&J Custom Bullets feature cores bonded to the jacket to prevent separation, better penetration and more stopping power.

.38 caliber case or the .357 Magnum. J&J also has a 180 grain JHP .38/.357 in production.

We loaded some of these bullets ahead of 21.0 grains of 2400 powder and came up with an average velocity of 1651 fps. The highest velocity we encountered was 1685 fps. Charges of 20.0 and 19.0 grains of 2400 produced averages of 1612 and 1593 fps respectively when measured at 10 feet from the muzzle.

In clay, this bullet (the Crimestopper) expanded fiercely, creating a large cavity, but that's what it was designed to do. The pure lead core is bonded to the annealed copper jacket so they expand quicker, even when fired from 2-inch .38s using non-+P loads, without separating.

None of us like to speak about situations where bullets like these may have to be put to use but the fact is law abiding people do have a right to live in peace and afford themselves self protection. In fact, this is a God-given right. Many of our courts have already made it clear that law enforcement agencies do not owe civilians self protection, thus it is clear that the duty is awarded to the law abiding in the event peace officers aren't around to maintain the peace. Me, I'll take any one of these rounds over a standard load that very likely won't "perform" as designed. Lightweight, high velocity rifle bullets work wonders on tiny four-legged varmints, so these lightweight high velocity handgun bullets should perform equally as well on larger vermin. But let's hope we never have to prove our theories.

If you're interested in information from any of these bullet manufacturer's, they may be contacted at the following addresses.

Power Plus Enterprises, Inc., P.O. Box 6070, Dept. ASG, Columbus, GA 31907.

J&J Custom Bullets, P.O. Box 2029A, Dept. ASG, El Cajon, CA 92021.

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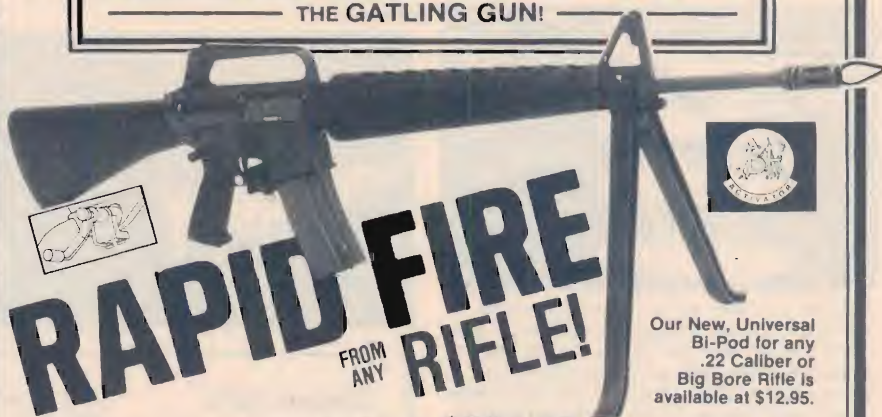
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Survival Cutlery In Dallas

(Continued from page 30)

may be an encumbrance and actually hinder the use of a knife. So why not just take them off when they are not needed? With Wood's new design you can do just that! His sawteeth slide into a slot that is milled along the back of the blade and are secured by a small allen screw. A matching allen wrench is built into the butt cap which can also be used to clean dirt and debris out of the milled slot.

Wayne Goddard's intent in creating a small knife with a magnesium handle is to facilitate firestarting. This is accomplished by scraping shavings of magnesium from the handle onto a combustible material and sparking the shavings with the flint

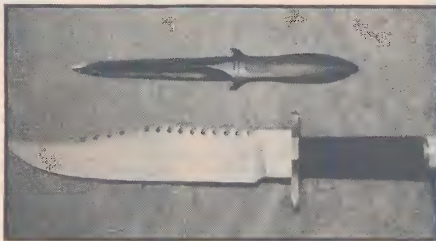
striker that is epoxied to the handle.

Vaughn Neeley and Bill Sanders of Timberline Knives have another winner with their "Survival Folder." This lock-back folding knife is equipped with removable micarta handle scales. The inner sides of the scales are hollowed out for a compass and other survival necessities.

Many other survival knife designs were present. Knives depicting a creative use of



ABOVE—"Survival Folder": Another exciting innovation by Timberline Knives. This folding knife incorporates survival storage by having removable micarta scales that are hollowed out on the inner sides.



LEFT—Rambo's Blades: The hollow handle survival knife and stiletto created by Jimmy Lile for the movie *Rambo* starring Sylvester Stallone. The 15-inch-long survival knife features a 10 x 2 x 1/4-inch thick Bowle-type blade of 440C stainless steel. It also has screwdriver tips at the ends of the crossguard and a skull crusher projection on the butt cap. The Rambo Stiletto has a 6-inch blade of 440C stainless steel and Lile's interframe type handle with a black micarta insert.

BELOW—Survival styles by Gil Hibben of Louisville, KY. Both models feature the Hibben "chainsaw" pattern of saw teeth with notched projections toward the tip of the blade. The larger knife is about 15 1/2 inches in length.



ABOVE—Survival system a la Webster Wood: This dentist's nightmare is Webster Wood's latest creation. The knife features a 9-inch blade.



ABOVE—Survival for the fighter; Survival for the hungry: Four survival knife designs by Jack Crain. Second from top knife is Crain's Life Support System I with a 7 1/2 inch blade. Its 9-inch larger brother along with the two middle knives were featured in the movie *Commando*. The utility knife at the bottom Crain refers to as "The Skinning Kit."



ABOVE—Survival knives by Eldon Courtney of Wichita, KS. The "Wildcat" in the center is flanked by two versions of his Model C-5, with and without sawteeth. These knives are made from spring carbon steel and have full tang handles wrapped with parachute cord.

tang storage were displayed at the tables of Lee Gene Baskett and Kevin Hoffman. Frank Vought, Jr., Gil Hibben, and Eric Erickson revealed some very different ideas for machete sized survival blades. Danny Thornton prefers a smaller hollow handle style with his "Quicksilver" models while John Salley gives his traditional hollow handle survival knife sleek lines with crosscut sawteeth. Walter Brend's survival knives favor the fighter style while Eldon Courtney's are flat with parachute cord wrapped handles.

Numerous custom knifemakers have refined their own unique survival knife designs. Most of these designs will never be mass produced by commercial cutlery firms, and yet may offer the perfect match



LEFT—These hollow handle survival knives by Vaughn Neeley and Bill Sanders of Timberline Knives come with either a 5 1/2-inch or a 7 1/2-inch drop point blade.

Survival Knife Sources

Lee Gene Baskett
240 Oakwood Dr.
Elizabethton, KY 42701
(502) 769-5816

Walter J. Brend
351 Pine Avenue
Walterboro, SC 29488
(803) 538-8256

Eldon Courtney
2718 Bullinger
Wichita, KS 67204
(314) 838-4053

Jack W. Crain
Route 2 Box 221 F
Weatherford, TX 76086
(817) 599-6414

Eric Erickson
23883 Ada
Warren, MI 48091
(313) 759-1105

Wayne L. Goddard
473 Durham Ave.
Eugene, OR 97404
(503) 689-8098

Gil Hibben
2703 Costigan Way
Louisville, KY 40220
(502) 499-9097

Kevin L. Hoffman
6392 Holly Ct.
Lisle, IL 60532
(312) 983-8342

Jimmy Lile
Route 1
Russellville, AR 72801
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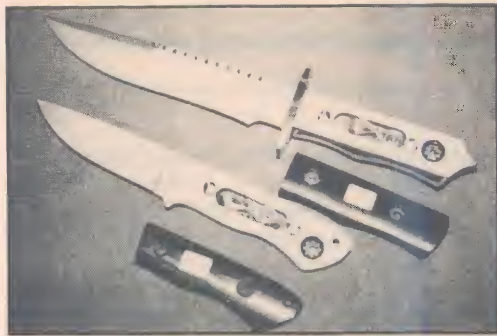
John D. Salley
3965 Fredrick Ginghamburg Rd.
Tipp City, OH 45371
(513) 698-4588

Danny Thornton
P.O. Box 334
Fort Mill, SC 29715
(803) 547-7383

Timberline Knives
Box 36
Mancos, CO 81328
(303) 533-7006

Frank Vought, Jr.
115 Monticello Drive
Hammond, LA 70401
(504) 345-0278

Webster Wood
4726 Rosedale
Clarkston, MI 48016
(313) 394-0351



ABOVE—Two tang storage survival models by Kevin Hoffman. The larger knife is his "Survival Fighter" made of 440C stainless steel with a nickel silver double guard.



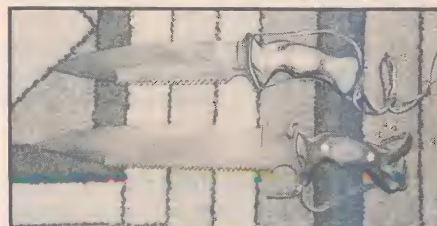
ABOVE—Quicksilver rides again: "Quicksilver Vanguard" (top and bottom) are double edged models with and without sawteeth.

with an individual's needs or fancy. Custom knifemakers can be located by consulting, *KNIFEMAKERS: An official directory of the Knifemakers Guild*, edited by J. Bruce Voyles, or the latest annual edition of *KNIVES*, edited by Ken Warner.

I came away from the wonders of the 1986 Knifemakers Guild Show with the conviction that this is still a time when knives are made one at a time, in the hands of craftsmen with that gifted touch.



ABOVE—"Outfitter Survival System": Frank Vought Jr. offers a custom machete with a survival kit in a pocket of the webb sheath. The survival kit items are stowed in a flat, rectangular kydex box which slides into a front pocket of the sheath.



ABOVE—"Upside Down Backwards Survival Knife." This unusual machete style by Eric Erickson has sawteeth along the bottom edge.

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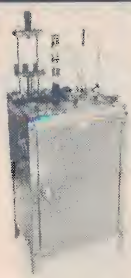
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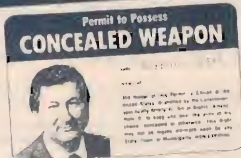
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Backpack Fever

(Continued from page 17)

Shelter? Building a place to live (in any style other than early-American caveman) takes time. If he builds a cabin beforehand, he may find it vandalized or occupied when he gets to his retreat; if he doesn't build it beforehand, he may have to live in his vehicle or a primitive shelter of some sort.

Thus, a major problem is to get a large enough vehicle to carry everything he needs as well as to live in.

History has shown that cities empty themselves without official evacuation orders when things look bad. It happened in World War II and has even happened in the U.S. during approaching hurricanes, large urban fires, and nuclear reactor problems. So there's a major problem of timing which the backpack survivalist must contend with. He has to be packed and ready to go with all members of his family at the precise moment he learns of the disaster! The warning he gets that warrants evacuating an area will have to be acted on quickly if he's to get out ahead of the major traffic snarls that will quickly develop. A spouse at work or shopping or kids across town at school means he'll either have to leave them behind or be trapped in the area he's in. A choice not worth having to make.

Traffic—The gridlock and traffic snarls won't stop everyone. People will slowly be coming out of heavily populated areas and most of them will have few supplies. They will have weapons (guns are one of the first things people grab in a crisis according to civil defense studies) and the evacuees will be desperate. How many battles will the survivalist's family be able to endure? How much work—or even sleep—can he get when he's constantly on the lookout to get a share of his supplies?

What about the local people that don't try to take over his retreat before he gets there? Will they be glad to see another stranger move into the area to tax their limited supplies? Or will they be setting up roadblocks to turn people like the backpack survivalist away?

Let's just imagine that somehow he's discovered a place that doesn't have a local population and where those fleeing cities aren't able to get to. What happens when he gets to his retreat? How good does he need to be at hunting and fishing? One reason mankind went into farming was that hunting and fishing don't supply enough food for a very large population nor do they work during times of drought or climatic disruption. What does he do when he runs out of ammunition or game? What happens if the streams become so contaminated that he can't safely eat what he catches? Can he stake out a large enough area to guarantee that he won't

deplete it of game so that the next year it's not barren of animals?

Farming? Unless he finds some unclaimed farm machinery and a handy storage tank of gasoline at his retreat, he'll hardly get off first base. Even primitive crop production requires a plow and work animals (or a lot of manpower) to pull the blade. No plow, no food for him or domestic animals.

And domestic animals don't grow on trees. Again, unless he just happens to find some crows waiting for him at his retreat, he'll be out of luck.

Intensive gardening? Maybe. But even that takes a lot of special tools, seeds, know-how, and good weather. Can he carry what he needs and have all the skills that can be developed only through experience?

Even if he did, he might not have any food to eat. Pestilence goes hand in hand with disasters. Our modern age has forgotten this. But during a time when chemical factories aren't churning out the insecticides and pest poisons we've come to rely on, our backpack survivalist should be prepared for waves of insects flooding into any garden he may create. How good is he at making insecticides? Even if he carries out a large quantity of chemicals to his retreat, how many growing seasons will they last?

Did he truck out a lot of gasoline and an electrical generator with him? No? Do you really think he can create an alcohol still from scratch in the middle of nowhere without tools or grain? Then he'd better write off communications, lighting, and all the niceties of the 20th century after his year's supply of batteries wear out and his vehicle's supply of gasoline gives out.

I'm afraid we've only scratched the surface though. Thus far things have been going pretty well. What happens when things get really bad? How good is he at removing his spouse's appendix—without electric lights, pain killers, or antiseptic conditions? Campfire dental work, anyone?

How good is he at making ammunition? Clothing? Shoes?

I think you'll have to agree that this hardly seems like survival in style. Even if our backpack survivalist is able to live in the most spartan of conditions and has the know-how to create plenty out of the few scraps around him, he'll never have much of a life ahead of him.

Camping out is fun for a few days. Living in rags and like a hunted animal doesn't sound like an existence to be aimed for.

Bottom Line—The bottom line with backpack fever is that, with any major disaster that isn't extremely localized, running is a panic reaction, not a survival strategy. Running scared is seldom a good survival

technique and backpack fever during any but a localized disaster (like a flood or chemical spill) looks like it would be a terminal disease with few, rare exceptions.

So what's the alternative?

A number of writers, from Kurt Saxon to Howard Ruff, have already suggested it but I think that it bears a retelling.

What they've said is this: get yourself situated in a small community that could get by without outside help if things came unglued nationally or internationally. Find a spot that allows you to live in the life style you've grown accustomed to (and a community that allows you to carry on your livelihood) but which has the ability to grow its own food and protect its people from the unprepared (or looters) that might drift in from surrounding cities during a crisis. This spot has the ability to carry on trade within its borders and has a number of people who can supply special-ized products or professional skills.

An area with 2,000 to 5,000 people in it along with a surrounding farm community would be ideal but sizes can vary a lot according to the climate and city. Ideally such a town would have its own power plant with a few small industries along with the usual smattering of doctors, dentists, and other professionals.

This type of community isn't rare in the U.S. It's quite common in almost every state. You could probably even take a little risk and commute into a city if you must keep your current job. In such a case a reverse backpack survival strategy just might work—you'd be bugging out to your home.

Western civilization stepped out of the Dark Ages when small communities started allowing people to specialize in various jobs. Rather than each person being his or her own artisan, farmer, doctor, carpenter, etc., people started learning to master one job they enjoyed doing. Each person became more efficient at doing a job and—through the magic of capitalism—Western culture finally started upward again.

A small modern community like the one suggested above, when faced with a national economic collapse or the aftermath of a nuclear war, would eventually lift itself up the same way. It would give those who lived in it the same chance for specialization of work and the ability to carry on mutual trade, support and protection. Such small communities will be the few light spots in a neo-Dark Age.

Which place would you rather be: in a cave, wondering where the food for tomorrow would come from, or with a group of people living in their homes, working together to overcome their problems? Even the most individualistic of survivalists shouldn't find the choice too hard to make. ●

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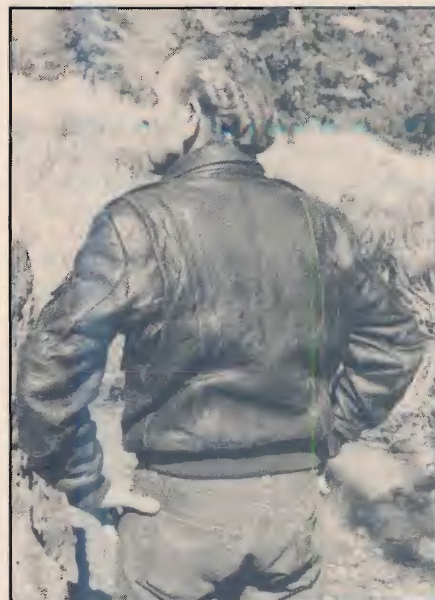
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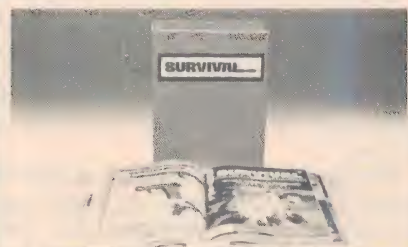
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Wilderness Classroom

(Continued from page 27)

mon beginner's mistake." All were believers by now, and after a few more demonstrations, everyone was scattered along the stream.

George and Steve worked as a team. Both former Marines, they had read a lot of survival material. This was their first experience, however, at *doing* it together. The reality was colder and harder than it sounded, but first attempts were encouraging. At first Phil was reluctant, as many are, to put his hand under the slimy bank. But looking around, he could see Paul and Chris nearby and Matt further downstream, probing away. Out of the corner of his eye he could see an occasional fish fly up onto the bank and whoop of joy. Early success was exciting, then the work of actually getting enough for dinner settled one down into a teeth-gritting determination. Only one person watched. Peter did not like fish or killing animals, and was content to tough it out without the animal protein.

50 Fish Caught—A fish-cleaning party back at the starting place soon ensued. Among the eight people, about 50 to 60 fish were caught. A good afternoon's work. I eyed the sun low on the horizon and asked if anyone knew how much daylight was left. Fists were held out at arm's length and an estimated two hours was the consensus. This new-found method had been part of yesterday's hike into the valley. The sun covers about the distance of your fist in one hour. Two fists now fit snugly between the horizon and the sun. It was time to make it back to camp and get the fires going.

Eight tired but happy fishermen assembled around the campfire—a hole in the sand—to watch the firemaking for this night. Tonight's method was to use some extra fine steel wool from the "minikit"—a survival kit that fits into a 35mm film canister—and two AA batteries. The batteries can be used much like a car battery to produce a spark on the steel wool and this can be blown, with tinder, into flame. An earth oven was prepared for baking the fish in our billy cans.

Fish were put in the cans with wild onions, and buried in hot coals for 30 minutes. They never tasted so good. This was washed down with wild mint tea and ash cakes. Wild currants were concocted for dessert—some making my favorite, a campfire cobbler with our small allotment of bread dough. All in all, we had lived off the land this day, and were tired but comfortable.

"Damn! It just won't catch!" Phil's exasperation over trying to start the flint and steel fire in the morning was evident. A former flower child, now seller of real estate, Phil had few natural skills to bring

(Continued on page 74)

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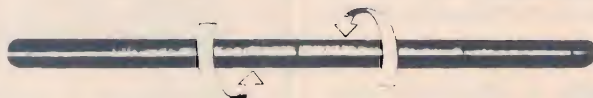
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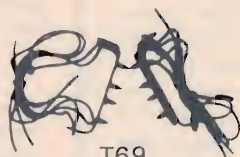
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Marlin Camp Carbine

(Continued from page 33)

plinker if you will, and scoping would only require handling it more gently.

The Test—First off, this is a fun gun to play with in gravel pits. It's like shooting a .22LR plinking rifle, with slightly more noise, a bigger spray of dirt, and vastly increased ammunition costs. It isn't hard to burn up \$20 worth of fuel in less than a minute.

Trigger pull was a little hefty, at about 9 pounds, but didn't seem to create any serious accuracy problems for test shooters. It's possible to keep a soda can moving continuously, because the Camp Carbine lines up on target so naturally.

It'll fire a 12-round magazine in about 6 seconds, and put every shot into a 10-inch circle at 20 yards. On the other hand, when shooting small objects at long range (say a pop can at 75 yards), accuracy suffers because the front sight is so large it obscures the target. A scope would help here, but if self-defense is your only use, open sights will do the job.

Recoil is virtually non-existent, about like shooting a .22. Wives and kids can shoot the Camp Carbine all day without discomfort; as noted, the real discomfort comes in the wallet area during extended shooting sessions.

Velocities were faster than the same lot of factory rounds tested in several of my auto pistols, by about 15 percent rather than the claimed 20 percent. That increases muzzle energy to about that of a fairly hot .357 Magnum, and as much as 120 foot-pounds higher than a .45 auto pistol shooting hardball ammo.

Using nine different brands, sizes or types of factory ammo for accuracy tests, we found that eight produced group sizes of two inches or less at 45 yards, with several groups down around one inch. Winchester Silvertip came in at about 2-1/2-inch groups, which is sufficient in view of its devastating knock-down potential. Scoping would probably shrink these groups, since it's difficult to achieve real accuracy with the big front sight blocking out part of the target.

A Caution. Marlin states that the Camp Carbine must be thoroughly cleaned after every 250 shots, to prevent jamming. *American Rifleman* Magazine, known for exhaustive testing, found that one carbine failed to cycle its bolt forward after 270 rounds had been fired without cleaning.

They also reported that cleaning is a major operation, requiring partial disassembly in a precise sequence. We found this true also; this quirk throws a damper on the Camp Carbine as a "shoot-and-move" survival weapons, unless the shooter has spent much time practicing the breakdown and assembly techniques.

To see if we could intentionally jam the Marlin (as *American Rifleman* also did),

we first fired all our velocity and accuracy tests (about 190 rounds), then fed Blazer 115-grain full metal jacket (FMJ) slugs into the gun as fast as we could shoot, with three magazines being reloaded by one guy working at it full time.

The only thing we did differently was to apply a few tiny squirts of CLP (Cleaner, Lubricant, Preservative) to the working parts, especially the bolt stop plate which is reputed to hang up when dirty, preventing forward bolt travel. We felt this was typical of how a savvy field shooter would treat a gun he was staking his life on.

At the 425-round mark we gave up, mainly because ammo in such quantities costs too much. There was never a failure to fire, cycle or feed during the test, and while the chamber area indeed got quite dirty, the CLP lube prevented formation of hard deposits which'd jam the action.

The 200-plus round rapid-fire test made the barrel so hot you could smell smoking oil, but the gun kept firing like clockwork.

A few days later I fired another 100 Blazer rounds through the still-dirty Camp Carbine, without extra lube, and had no feeding or cycling problems. It appears that periodic lubrication will allow the Camp Carbine to shoot almost forever without failure.

One glitch surfaced after all testing was finished: the magazine disconnect was so dirty that it hung up, allowing the weapon to be fired with the magazine out. This should be no real problem, since many shooters are accustomed to guns without disconnect safety features, and safe shooters never depend on such devices anyway.

The breakdown procedure for cleaning is detailed in Marlin's instruction booklet, furnished with the Camp Carbine. It ain't fun if done the way Marlin recommends, but it's the most reliable method. The alternative is to periodically douse moving parts with CLP, and brush out the gunk when you get home after a long shooting session.

Another way is to remove the two captive screws which hold the action to the stock, then soak the action in a vat of cleaner; cycling and brushing it, while the action is under the solvent's surface, will clean out most deposits.

The Camp Carbine is a reliable, accurate, sturdy, inexpensive little plinker with about five times the authority of a .22 rifle. It costs less than half as much as the average 9mm assault carbine, but will perform the same tasks. Since it fires the pistol ammo many people now carry in their everyday handguns, it helps make a nice self-defense combo, especially when magazines interchange.

Most of all it's damnably fun to shoot! I'm gonna hang onto it rather than ship it back to Marlin. ●

Survivalist Directory

(Continued from page 20)

ASG 0116

Albuquerque, New Mexico, would like to correspond with like minds. To be alive the morning after! Whatever the night has brought!

ASG 0117

Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, Ex-Air Force pilot, geologist and wife, a registered nurse, seek individuals interested in constructing and maintaining a paramilitary survivalist encampment in east Texas. Fifty acres have already been secured for this purpose. We now need trained, skilled, professional personnel. We are not religion oriented but desire persons of strong moral character. Paramilitary, weapons-skilled, survivalist oriented, patriotic Americans only need answer. Single women welcome.

ASG 0118

Ft. Smith, Arkansas, survivalist family seek contact with other family units to form group. No gun nuts or kooks.

ASG 0119

Ft. Smith, Arkansas, survivalist in area seeks contact with others, family units, and single persons to form group. No fanatical paramilitary please.

ASG 0120

Farmington, Utah, young couple, retired Army, experienced: truck, garden, milk goats, sheep, chickens, trap-line etc. Augmenting small group to man remote retreat full time. Established trout pond, trailer sites, water, sewer, shade trees and lawn. No drugs, alcohol, gays or Rambos.

ASG 0121

Stephenville, Canada, interested in forming a group in Newfoundland or elsewhere in Canada. Also interested in communicating with other groups worldwide.

ASG 0122

Thomasville, Georgia, would like to join or start a survival group in the Thomasville or Tallahassee area. Ex-Ranger, love outdoor games. Would like to learn more about the survival field. No racists or commies. Families welcome.

ASG 0123

Pass Lake, Ontario, Canada, very interested in joining or forming a survivalist group in northwestern Ontario.

ASG 0124

Commack, Long Island, New York, Ex-USMC, Vietnam vet. Serious survivalists, wants to contact other survival minded persons or groups everywhere to exchange information, ideas and plans.

ASG 0125

Somerville, New Jersey, wish to exchange information and ideas with other survivalists in central New Jersey.

ASG 0126

New Orleans, Sildell, Louisiana, 18-year-old male looking to join and learn about survival groups. No Nazis or racists.

ASG 0127

Concord, New Hampshire, survivalist looking for a group or persons to contact.

ASG 0128

Covington, Georgia, young individual survivalist interested in contacting others in area and elsewhere for information and idea exchange.

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AD INDEX

A.L.S.	69
Blowgun World, Inc.	71
BMF Activator, Inc.	63
Brigade Quartermaster, Ltd.	20
Buto Kukai	47
China Diesel Imports	C4
Commando School	71
Conflux	3
Corbin Mfg. & Supply, Inc.	66
Cutlery Shoppe	21
Delta Press	61
Desert Publications	C/3
Dutchman, The	23
Edge Company, The	C/2
F.I.E.	13
Feather Enterprises	63
Florida Knife Company	65
Foothills Fastprint Photo ID	66
Frank's Survival Center	8
Great Lakes Distributing	67
Guaranteed Distributors	18, 19
INCO	66
LRRP Security Service, Inc.	65
M & M Enterprises	59, 70
Midwest Sport Distributor, Inc.	25, 60
Mitchell Arms	20
Nuclear Research	69
Nuclear Video	43
Nunn's Emporium	43
Nutritional Athletic Products, Inc.	51
Paladin Press	6, 7
Pathfinders Publications	51
Pocket Survival, The	72
Provisions Unlimited	10
Sierra Supply	39, 40, 41, 42, 73
Smokey Mountain Knife Works	69
Special Weapons Products	13
Sports International, Inc.	62
Steve Arnold's Gun Room	12
Survival Books	62
Survival Center, The	67
Survival, Inc.	11
U.S. Cavalry	9
World Wide Publishing	71
Yellowstone Basin Properties	71

Self-Rescue Winches

(Continued from page 57)

those drums on them, the entire power of your 350 Chevy is on that wheel. If you tie a line to a distant tree, take three wraps on that drum and pull, you are comin' outa there!

There are considerations, though; the project isn't quite as simple as it would seem on the surface. You could weld a piece of 6- or 8-inch pipe on your rear rims, but several things would happen . . . none of them good. First, your hubcaps wouldn't fit. Second, your wheels would be out of balance. Third, your "X" wrench might be blocked. And fourth, the tire changing machine wouldn't fit and you'd be stuck with changing tubeless tires by hand.

The best way is to make a removable drum, which means drilling four holes in the rim and welding nuts to the back of them. The nuts have to be welded, because with the rim in place, the brake drum covers the back of the wheel. So the first operation is to drill four slightly oversize holes (we're using 1/2-inch bolts) in the rim, and then make a wooden pattern of those holes.

Next, drill matching holes in the template and then transfer the hole pattern to a piece of 1/4-inch or 3/8-inch steel plate and, using the wood as a drilling guide, drill those same holes in the steel disc.

Now take that steel plate and bolt it to the rim and with the bolts tight, get those nuts welded in place. (I guarantee that the man at the welding shop will want to know what the hell you're up to). The next operation is to find working center on the plate, and to mark mounting position. Unless you are very lucky, that plate will only fit one way, so mark the holes to match.

Once the mounting alignment is marked, take the plate off, put the wheel on the car and jack it up. After blocking all three other wheels, start the engine and start the wheel turning. By moving a sharp punch slowly around visible center, you'll eventually find the point where it quits trying to wander. Mark that spot—you're almost finished.

From here you can either drill and bolt a wooden drum, or have a steel one welded on. In either case, you now have a powerful, portable winch. You will need, of course, to have your other rear rim and your spare modified with nuts to accept the drum, because you never know just which wheel is going in the soup.

Now, when you lose traction, just knock off the hubcap of the wheel that's spinning, and bolt up the drum. By tying your rescue rope to a tree, fencepost or rock, you can put as much power on your problem as a wrecker—at a lot less cost and a lot more reliably. After all, the wrecker could get stuck on his (expensive) way out to you. ●

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Wilderness Classroom

(Continued from page 69)

to this class. "It's your tinder set, I think," I offered. "You need a bird's nest of small fluff to catch the spark. You can even add some of the steel wool if you want, or little torn strips of bark or paper, but pine needles and twigs are not fine enough to catch right away." Everyone waited for the fire to be lit so breakfast could be set up.

This day, there was an actual package of oatmeal, a relative treat in the austere rations. Phil soon had the fire going and billy cans were set to bubble as bones warmed.

"Did everyone sleep OK?" I asked. "My pine needle mattress seemed a bit hard," offered Chris. Chris was a medical student from out of state and somewhat delicate looking. "Did you make a depression for your hips and shoulders?" I asked. "I think so, but it was still hard!" I suggested that he make sure the pine needles were fluffy and 8 inches deep. Much of the finesse in living in the wilderness is made of such bits and pieces of information. A small thing, like the lack of a depression for the hips, can make trying to sleep an exercise in futility.

As the students, with a little prompting, determined our direction of travel, we soon started out towards the South Fork of the Kern River and our next campsite. Along the way we stopped to look at an ideal natural shelter and talk about hypothermia and firebeds. The shelter was a small cave under a large rock with a protected entrance partly formed by a fallen tree. "Plenty of firewood nearby, a dry place to sleep, and protection from all sides," was my comment. "It's also on the south-facing slope, much warmer than elsewhere, and it's 50 feet or so above the elevation of the canyon bottom where most cold air will settle." With these remarks, I detailed the firebed, an Indian method of sleeping warm with no blankets. The basic plan is to dig a shallow grave in your cave, line it with stones, build a hot fire in it and let it burn down. When a good bed of coals is ready, cover it with dirt, add a mattress of pine needles or leaves and sleep on top of it. The finesse lies, with most beginners, in adding enough dirt. Most students sleep too warm the first time. In a small space, like a cave, this will last for 24 hours or more and works even in below freezing temperatures. We vowed to practice that night.

Keeping Warm—Hypothermia was also discussed. Making a firebed takes time and energy. Fatigue and wetness are the two main factors in lowering the body temperature. Temperatures do not have to be freezing outside, or even close to it, for dangerous body chill to set in. A survivalist must make sure he stays dry and gets plenty of rest or food to make up for it. As long as the body has enough energy to

shiver and create its own heat and shelter from the worst of the weather, it will stay alive. But let energy run low (as in our short rations) or sweat or any other source of water make clothing damp, and trouble ensues. These are always most noticeable when you are going to bed. Activity up until then, such as building a firebed, will generate heat. After the activity slows or stops, the great chill factor can get to work, and does. Firebed makers must be sure they go to bed dry.

True to form, several firebeds were made that night, and most were "too hot." But I could see the smug expressions and hear a muttered "Damn! It did work though! Who would have guessed I could stash my sleeping bag and sleep out here," from George.

We continued our trek into the Golden Trout Wilderness, foraging for food at some part of each day. Base camp was made by a bubbling brook on a large meadow that has lots of Indian sign. Matt was especially fond of some of the spear-points and arrowheads we were turning up.

In this pristine setting with lots of animals around, it was also a good place to set up and practice a couple of snares. A deadfall was set up by everyone. Large or small, it takes only natural materials and so I like to have everyone attempt at least one. A deadfall is placed on carefully notched and balanced sticks so that the trigger stick is set off by the nibbling of bait. This takes practice to set up and place, but the basic idea is simple.

The twitch-up or hanging snare is more effective but takes some wire or twine. This is the classic "bent sapling" snare that hangs the prey in the air so it can't chew its way out of the snare. It makes a great demonstration because it is powerful, and I could tell the fellows were impressed.

With most of the basic teaching accomplished, it was now time to challenge individuals to do "solos"—take off on their own and rendezvous later. They could choose to leave gear with me or take it and stash it. I always enjoy this part best because it gives me some free time, and I often like to wander around and practice my tracking skills. I frequently track someone for miles and find a student who thought he was totally alone. On this occasion, since all decided to go out from camp, I arranged to meet them back at our first campsite in the valley. A mile off the regular trail at one point, I tracked Paul. He was busily setting up a deadfall—his third, in hope of killing a squirrel or something for dinner. Fish were not in the small stream he camped near. He had gathered quite a bit of yampa, however, the starchy root we all enjoyed. Though small, his rations also included onions and currants and mint tea. This, though not sufficient

to sustain him, would at least give him a few calories and a psychological lift. I left knowing he would be fine whether he caught meat or not.

Phil and Matt joined me on the trail back to camp one. We picked up Paul and Chris shortly thereafter as we all climbed a 1,500 foot pass. It was good to see Phil take the lead in the navigation, for he had not shown leadership qualities all week. I try to give each individual an opportunity to challenge himself. His solo had been good for Phil and his new self-confidence showed. Like several others, he was black from head to toe by this time, and looking forward to a dunk back in the river where we had fished. Sometimes we set up a sweat lodge to do this—a teepee with heated stones rolled into a hole with water in it. This really gets us clean. Since each person on this trek had expended a lot of energy just getting his solo out of the way and then back to camp, I determined it would not be wise to try a sweat lodge this time out. It took just that much more energy.

Around camp that night there were eight smiling faces. George and Steve had really taxed themselves on their solo, had not captured any meat, but felt that they had really proved something to themselves. George put it this way: "It's tough out here. I'm glad I know what I do know now, but I will never come out here unprepared. And I will never attempt to climb a pass without more food and water. I just collapsed last night on the summit. Steve had to bring me water and I just slept right there. I couldn't go any further. Having a buddy was a real salvation for this guy." Steve smiled through this and I could see it was bit of a surprise that he had come out the stronger of the two for endurance. These two friends would appreciate each other more now that they knew each other's limits. "George's sense of humor kept me going," he said "this guy never stops seeing the light side of everything."

Paul reported that he had not trapped meat but had been comfortable. Peter, who had been silent through much of this admitted that he had chosen to simply hike back to camp one and just practice a firebed. Fishing or trapping was nice to know but not something he really wanted to do. He was happier picking berries and building fires.

Personal tests mean different things to different people. This group was a good example. They came in with varied expectations and goals. I tried to send them home with new self confidence and awareness of their limits and capabilities, but with satisfaction that their expectations and goals had been met on a realistic basis. We hiked out in harmony. Not just a harmony with our surroundings, but within each person as well. ●

Survivalist Electronics:

The Light Spectrum

Teaching skills in the fields of communications, remote electricity . . .

Staff Report



THE LIGHT SPECTRUM newsletter published in Kootenai, Idaho ("Kootnee" is an Indian phrase meaning "deer skin robes") has been teaching skills in the fields of communications and remote electricity to survivalists for 2½ years. The editor's intent is to pass on these skills, and the latest information on equipment, how and why it works, and other unique material on EMP, survivalist networking and preparations.

"While most specialized survival newsletters," the editor reports, "run in the \$60 to \$200 per year range, *The Light Spectrum* brings you two major fields of interest rarely offered elsewhere, for only \$18 a year." Both technologies, while occasionally appearing in *ASG*, are barely understood by most survival-oriented folks; "it is our intent to not only fill this important need, but also to keep readers abreast of the latest equipment in the radio communications and independent energy fields, and how it can be applied to your crisis preparations," says the editor.

It is published "roughly six times yearly" for the \$18 subscription rate, although they don't mind if you want to subscribe for 4, 9 or whatever number of issues (at \$3 each). It is mailed in an envelope, presently via first class mail, protecting the issues from post office mishandling and "prying eyes." Sample issues are sent upon request (for \$3), and a full stock of all back issues are maintained.

The newsletter began shortly after the editor returned from the 1983 Self-

Reliance and Survival Expo held in Pasadena, CA, having been inspired by both the survivalist public's need for good information and good equipment in these two fields. It has been read by the editorial staff of *ASG* since its beginning in late 1983.

Among the topics covered are all aspects of radio communications technology which are of interest to preparationists: ham radio, scanner and shortwave monitoring, CB, antennas and techniques, EMP protection, computer-to-radio interfacing for high speed digital communications, radio teletype and station duties. Also covered are equipment reports and reviews, letters from readers and a classified ads section.

In the remote energy field, *TLS* also discusses battery-based electric systems, focusing on photovoltaic modules (solar electric), battery types best suited for survivalist retreats and back-up power in residential homes. They occasionally cover wind generators and tiny hydroelectric equipment.

You can receive a sample issue (the latest one) plus a subscription form and a description of the back issues, for \$3; or you may get in on a 6-issue subscription for \$18. Cash, money order or cashier's check are preferred payment modes, however, you may use your Visa or Mastercard by including the number, expiration and your signature. *The Light Spectrum* is available from: Box 215-*ASG*, Kootenai, ID 83840, as is their *EMP Information File*. •



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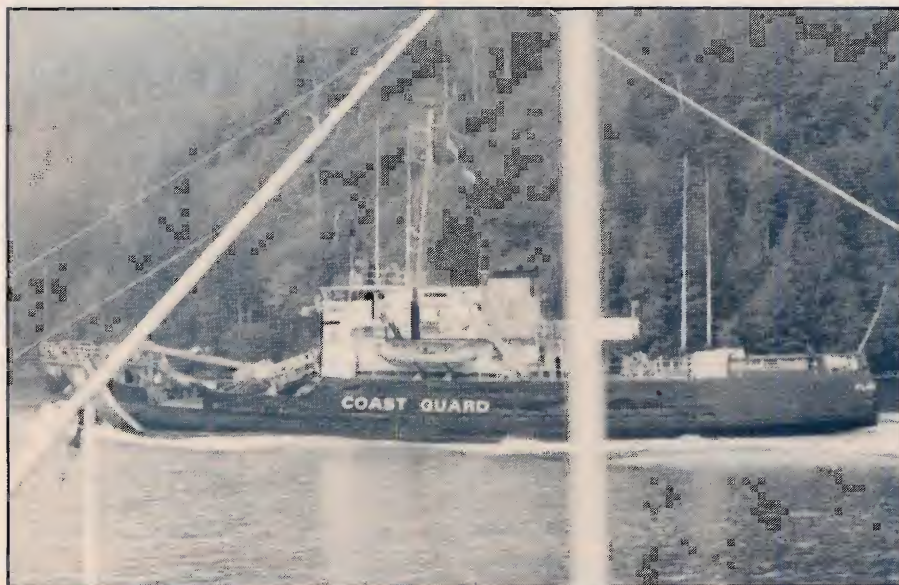
SAVE YOUR HEALTH -

Stearns Model ISS-590:

Cold Water Survival Suit

'No sane seafarer can safely believe a marine emergency won't occur' . . .

By James Watkins



The Stearns cold water survival suit is approved by the U.S. Coast Guard.

STEARNS Manufacturing Company produces some of the finest marine survival equipment available today. Their Model ISS-590 Cold Water Survival Suit with extended hypothermia protection is designed to protect, insulate, and extend survival time during a man overboard or mayday call.

Hypothermia is the lowering of the body's core temperature, a major cause of marine fatalities. Deaths in far northern or southern waters can be measured in minutes, however with a survival suit the wearer can expect to live for hours or even days.

The principle of the ISS-590 is simple: The one-piece suit with integral hood, boots, and gloves is watertight. Flotation is provided by inherently buoyant closed-cell foam. These same minute aircells limit convection heat loss, thus allowing exceptional thermal insulation.

This suit has a fast and efficient entry via a waterproof, airtight front zipper, and is manufactured of the finest closed-cell neoprene. It has stretch nylon on both sides. The fit allows room for donning over normal work clothes and shoes. Five-fingered waterproof gloves allow dexterity to carry out work details such as radio dial adjustments. Air expulsion valves ensure instant venting of excessive trapped suit air in water, without liquid ingress. An inflat-

able life ring provides head and shoulder support, adding 45 pounds of buoyancy when completely inflated.

The Stearns ISS-590 is not adversely affected by seawater or oil, it won't sustain burning, even after exposure to a petrol fire for a duration of several seconds. This fine quality cold water survival suit bears United States Coast Guard approval, meeting more than legal minimum safety requirements.

These specifications include buoyancy in excess of 27 pounds, excluding the inflatable life ring. The suit's color is International Orange, and its retroreflective requirements mean a minimum of 31 square inches must be visible above water, both front and back.

Donning time shouldn't be more than 60 seconds after competently studying instructions. The wearer's field of vision is unrestricted in excess of 120 degrees.

Climbing and walking time while wearing the garment doesn't exceed 1.25 times the subject's average time under normally clothed activity. The person can turn from a face down to face up position within five seconds. A 10-foot jump into water won't tear or separate ISS-590's seams, and the construction must withstand 300 pounds crosswise pull for five minutes.

Thermal insulation tests conducted on medical students at the Hypothermia-

Water Safety Institute at University of Minnesota provided results showing a minimum of six hours survival in water temperatures of 35 degrees F. when over normal work clothing. United States Navy experiments demonstrated endurance of 13 hours or more depending on circumstances and environmental conditions.

Three sizes fitting all people, including children, are available. Options can include helicopter lift harness; buddyline; leg takeup straps; personal flotation lights and EPIRBs. ISS-590 weighs a dry 10 pounds stock, or 11 pounds, 6 ounces with the inflator ring.

Modern technology produces excellent survival equipment with enhanced chances for rescue, but it's vitally important to select gear and use it correctly.

Practice utilizing the suit substantially reduces donning time, thus releasing emergency seconds vital elsewhere. Supplemental inflatable devices should be periodically inspected. Test the equipment and accessories in calm water to insure that there's no evident leakage. When entering water, jump feet first, covering the face or nose with one hand, while holding the suit in place with the other arm.

During an actual abandonment, stay with the overturned craft or floating debris, this aids successful search and rescue efforts. Partially climb out of the water onto debris to help reduce exposure to cold water. Keep the head above water, dry if possible, since this is where maximum heat loss occurs, resulting in reduced brain function, physical coordination, and judgment capabilities. Above all, seek ways to preserve energy and body heat. Decide that you will survive and do it!

I am an experienced saltwater adventurer and a commercial fisherman. It's been my observation that most competent vessels carry survival suits, yet some don't, despite legal obligations and their proven lifesaving value. No sane seafarer can safely believe a future marine emergency won't occur, to do so invites fatal disaster. After research with seamen including Coast Guard members, it's my personal belief that Stearns is among the leading world producers of marine survival equipment. For more information contact Stearns Manufacturing Company, Dept. ASG, P.O. Box 1498, St. Cloud, MN 56302. ●



Medical students at the University of Minnesota test the ISS-590 cold water survival suit in 35 degrees F. water.



The suit more than meets harsh industrial/commercial marine challenges.



Five-fingered watertight gloves allow the wearer dexterity for manual tasks.

Economy, Comfort:

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Tactical load bearing equipment . . .

By David M. Brahosky

PHOTOS BY JACQUES CLAIRE VOWELL



WHEN I first came to consider myself a serious survivalist, I became somewhat single-minded on the subject of weaponry. Certainly, I was a student of the late Mel Tappan and other leaders in the field. Call it a phase that most all of us go through at one time or another.

As time passed however, I came to realize the many facets of survivalism, from tools and reference books to old

(Continued on page 59)





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FULL AUTO Volume One



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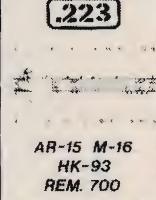
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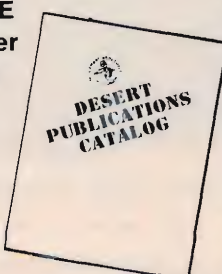
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